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DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM AND THE GARDEN.

THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

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Editorial.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE IN NEW ENGLAND.

It is a shame that New England pays so much money yearly for Southern strawberries. Not a excusable for looking South for her fine fruits, but after the strawberry season has once commenced here, we may as well keep our money at home as to pay it out to Virginia cultivators. Just as good berries can be raised in Massachusetts and Connecticut as can be obtained from Virginia or New Jersey, and much better in one respect, inasmuch as they are fresh, not peppered with dust or mashed by a long journey. The amount of strawberries imported into New England is almost incredible. They are so delicious and come so early in the season that every body indulges in this fruit, and the strawberry bill in many families is larger than the butcher's and baker's combined. We do not object to the use of the berries, as they are very healthy as well as luscious, but every owner of a few rods of land should raise his own, and the owner of an acre should raise enough for himself and his landless neighbors. If the neighbor is a wise man he will much prefer the home-raised to the imported article.

Farmers should cultivate this berry. Many regard the cultivation of all small fruits as beneath their notice, but nothing is unworthy of attention which contributes to the comfort and health of the family. The old-style New England farmers were brought up with the idea that all berries grew without cultivation, and so they do. All fruits are once wild and uncultivated. The luscious pear was once a wild fruit, hard, sour, and puckery, unfit to be eaten, except when cooked. Cultivation has given us the Bartlett, the Sheldon, the Seckel, and a host of other varieties, *all fit* for the table of a king. The smaller fruits are more palatable in their wild state, but whoever has dishes of blackberries and wild strawberries set before him, and chooses the latter, does not answer Solomon's description of the wise man, for he is described as having eyes in his head. True, the wild berry has an exquisite flavor seldom surpassed by the cultivated, but it is so small and is apt to be so mashed in hulling, that it does not commend itself to the consumer. Then again the farmer who depends upon field strawberries for the use of his family, in nine cases out of ten, goes without them. There is so much labor in picking them, and so much more in hulling, that they are seldom seen on the table of the farmer, even though they may grow by the score of bushels in his fields. It is better economy to cultivate them in the garden, for there is really less work in this than in picking them in the field, when the consumption is large. The truth is, the farmer who depends upon his fields for his strawberries gets possibly two or three dishes of them in a year, but he who cultivates them will find them on his table every day during the strawberry season.

There is an impression among farmers that the cultivation of this berry involves much labor, and it must be acknowledged that they do not grow in perfection without a deep rich soil, some care in keeping them free of weeds and runners, and a renewing of the bed once in two or three years, but it is labor which pays. Nothing good is secured without labor. A strawberry patch sufficient for an ordinary family is a very small affair, for the vines are immensely prolific, and most of the work can be done by women and children. Two rods square well tended will furnish a family of six with all they want to eat, and leave a margin for the supply of a sick neighbor and an occasional guest.

August is the month for starting a strawberry bed for another year's supply, and we hope every reader of the *Ploughman* who owns land, though it may be but a small patch, will improve these days to provide the cheapest and at the same time most delicious and healthful luxury for his family. If potted plants are used for starting the bed,—and they are the surest to succeed—they will furnish a good crop for the next year. Plant in rows three feet apart and mulch with leaves if the season is dry. Leaves also make the best of winter protection, and in the spring they can be dug in and made to furnish the best fertilizing material. Select deep, strong soil, and two or three varieties of plants ripening at different periods and in due season you will reap your reward.

"PARSLEY"—"PURSLAIN."

In our article on weeds published last week, by spelling the word *purslain*, as we too frequently hear it pronounced, *parsley*, we confounded it with another plant, which is a biennial and of an entirely different nature from purslain. We presume that most of our readers understand what weed was alluded to, but we make this correction that none may be misled.

☞ Quince cuttings should be entirely buried in the fall and the soil thoroughly mixed among them. In early spring take them up and plant out.

HOW TO SET UP AN AQUARIUM.

A correspondent of the *Ploughman* wishes to know how he can set up an aquarium, "that will maintain itself without much care or attention from him after it is prepared." As he does not state whether he wishes a salt or fresh water aquarium, we will give

briefly a description of the methods by which both are set up.

First, procure the tank. This is constructed of clear (plate) glass mounted in an iron frame and securely cemented all around, and into a groove in the stone bottom, with a waterproof cement. As aquaria tanks are now sold in all the ornamental iron stores, it is an easy matter to procure one of almost any size, and at a cost so low that it would be of no object for one to try to manufacture on the score of economy.

If desired, an aquarium may be made in an inverted bell glass, or confectionery jar, or one of the large glass jars used for covering cakes and fancy confectionery in the stores.

The objection to the circular form, however, is that the objects in the aquarium appear, when seen through the sides of the glass, more or less distorted, while if seen through flat glass they appear more natural.

Our illustration gives the best form and proportions for a tank, and one of this model may be obtained at any natural history store or ornamental iron store in the large cities.

We have seen very successful aquaria made in gold fish globes of large size; in fact, an aquarium can be made in almost any earthern or glass vessel, but to be thoroughly enjoyable it should be set up in a glass tank of rectangular form and perpendicular sides.

On the bottom of the tank place a layer of coarse gravelly sand and pebbles to the depth of one and one-half or two inches; mud and loam should be excluded, and decaying vegetable matter should be thoroughly washed out of the gravel before it is used. If desired a little rock work may now be built upon the gravel, and if one is fanciful, a cavern may be constructed by setting up two or three stones edgewise so as to produce the desired effect. The tank is now ready for the plants.

If the aquarium is to be a fresh water one, a number of plants that are to be found growing in brooks and the edges of ponds should be planted in the gravel.

Care should be taken that the roots are left with the plants and they should be well imbedded in the gravel and sand.

Weeds and plants with a large number of leaves are particularly desirable, and water cresses are used to good advantage. A good variety must be obtained.

If the aquarium is to be a salt water one, secure as large a quantity of the green sea algæ (*Ulva*) as is necessary, but be sure that it is attached to stones or pebbles. It is useless to put into the tank any algæ that are not thus attached, and although the gaily colored varieties are very attractive, they do not thrive well in aquaria. We have found that nothing does as well as the *Ulva* or green sea lettuce, as it is often called.

The tank is now ready for the water, this should be poured in slowly so as not to disturb the plants, and it should be as pure as possible. If the aquarium is a salt water one, *sea-water* should be secured.

The object of introducing plants into the aquarium is to secure a means of providing oxygen for the animals, the latter exhaling carbonic acid gas and inhaling oxygen, and the plants giving out oxygen, and that in greater or lesser degree in proportion to their exposure to the light; those which are in dark corners giving out less, and those in the brightest places most.

It has been found that aquaria stocked with the proper proportion of animal and vegetable life is self-sustaining and it does not take long to decide how much of animal life may be sustained by the vegetation; for if the plants do not furnish sufficient oxygen the fishes will soon come to the surface of the water to breathe.

It is not well to put any fishes or crustaceas into the aquarium until the plants have been in it several days, and if none are introduced until a minute green confervæ is seen to be growing on the stones and glass, all the better. When the aquarium is in condition to receive the fishes, &c., the collector may place them in at his own discretion.

Care should be taken to have a few snails and tadpoles to eat the refuse vegetable matter.

In fresh water aquaria the little sun fish or "pumpkin seed" is an attractive species, and it thrives well in confinement. Small "shiners" are also desirable, and in fact any pretty lively small fish are to be recommended.

The little spotted salamander or lizard found in fresh water brooks and ponds is a very neat and interesting species.

In fact about everything that is found swimming and moving in fresh water may be placed in the tank and be made interesting and instructive.

Trout and troutlings however do not thrive well in confinement; probably if the water were kept quite cold they would do better.

In salt water aquaria a great variety of animal life may be introduced and those who live near the shore, have always at hand, material for a most beautiful and attractive water garden. Sea-Anemones, star fishes, king crabs, soldier crabs, stickle backs, shrimp, hermit crabs, and hundreds of other curious and interesting creatures are always available, and they all thrive well in the aquarium. The stickle-back, that lively little fish (with thorns growing on his back) which is found in abundance in our salt water creeks, makes a nest and in this nest the eggs are laid and the young are hatched. Every salt water tank should have one pair of these fishes; a greater number however, is undesirable on account of the pugnacity of the males.

The Dairy.

THE DARLINGTON DAIRY.

The following account condensed from the Bucks County, Pa., *Intelligencer*, of the manner of conducting dairy operations at the Darlington dairy, Delaware Co., Pa., where from 140 to 150 cows are usually kept in milk, will be interesting:

The milk is strained into common tins five or six inches in depth, and set away in the milk-house to raise the cream. It usually remains about thirty-six hours before skimming. When the pan is tilted slightly on one side, and the cream parts readily from the side, it is considered to be ready to skim. When taken off, the cream is put into large tin pails or cans holding five gallons each, and hoisted on a dumb-waiter to the upper story, where it is placed in the spring water several inches in depth, until churning time. In winter a little sour milk is put into the pans of milk to hasten the rising of the cream. The temperature of the air in the lower room is from fifty-five to sixty degrees, according to the weather. This room is ventilated by flues in the walls and by double-hung windows, but there are no appliances for warming it, as it is not used in the winter. The cream is churned twice a week, on Monday and Thursday evenings. There are two large churns, revolving horizontally, and driven by a sweep power outside. When the cream is put into the churn, a suitable quantity of annatto dissolved in milk is added to produce the desired color, which is nearly that of good Jersey butter. If the weather is warm, the cream is cooled with ice to a temperature not exceeding fifty degrees. The usual time occupied in churning is an hour and a half. Sometimes in summer the butter comes soft, as with other dairymen, but generally it is in very good condition. The cream gathered in three or four days is enough to fill four churns, so that two churnings have to be done in one forenoon, producing from 350 to 375 pounds of butter. The butter, when taken from the churn, is carried to tables in the upper room, where it is worked over. The salt is added at the first working. The butter is not washed, but the buttermilk is extracted by absorbing it in a moist linen cloth, which is frequently wrung out in clean water. It is thus thoroughly worked in masses of ten or twelve pounds each, and is then passed on to the weigher at an adjoining table. This operator forms the butter into a rough cone and transfers it to the moulder on the left. This workman has pound and half pound "prints" of a neat pattern, and, turns out the nicely finished and attractive lumps very rapidly. These are regularly arranged in square zinc trays, several inches in depth, which float on the surface of the cool spring water.

Floriculture.

A LARGE HELIOTROPE.

[Cor. Gardner's Monthly.]

I have noticed that you invite descriptions of large or interesting plants, and therefore send you a description of a large and productive Heliotrope; I have had it nineteen years. It is trained espalier-fashion under three sashes of my greenhouse within six inches of the glass, and covers a space to ten feet high and fourteen feet wide. It attained these dimensions the second year. I have frequently taken off at one cutting 300 trusses of flowers. There are seldom less than 100. It is of the old "Souvenir de Liege" variety, and is light lavender in color, but by keeping one sash whitewashed it gives me all I want of blooms nearly white. It is planted in a bench three feet wide, ten feet long, and eight inches deep. The bench is covered with pots of other plants all Winter, that will do in the shade so that the under space is occupied. I dry it off from June till August. Prune it back to five old canes one inch in diameter and five feet long. Take out all the earth and cut off all the roots to within a foot of the trunk, which is five and a half inches through it. Fill with new composts and start again, allowing no shoots to grow for two feet from the root. It might be grown to double the dimensions, but I have not the space to spare or sale for the flowers. I have two other varieties under similar treatment, but shall discard them as they are not nearly so productive.

☞ Geraniums must have a season of rest during the summer if they are expected to bloom in winter. Keep the plants in pots out of doors, under the shade of some tree, till September and water sparingly. In the beginning of September shake the soil from the roots, replant them in rich sandy loam, and bring them forward to the sun and air. Place them in a sunny window, in-doors, when there is danger of frost, and when they begin to grow give them an occasional watering with liquid manure. They need plenty of sun and air and a comparatively low temperature. In a hot room they will not do well. Cactus needs but little water, plenty of sun, and should have a small pot with light soil.—*Rural New Yorker.*

A sheep grower says: "It is folly to keep old sheep. They should be turned off to the butcher in their prime. It does not take half the amount to fatten them. When they get old and thin, in order to put them in the condition for slaughter, the whole structure must be rebuilt. Four sets of lambs are all any ewe should bear; this will bring her to five years, and this is the age when, with a little extra care, she will round up to a full carcass. Exceptions may be made when the breed is scarce, and the blood is more desirable than anything else.

Questions & Answers.

☞ All questions to the Editor, desiring answe through the *Ploughman*, should be accompanied by the full name of the correspondent.

THE PLUM CURCULIO.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have a plum tree that bears full every year, but a worm comes and destroys all the plums. A gum runs out all over the tree, caused by the worm. Is there anything that will prevent it?

W. J.

Boston Highlands, Aug, 11th, 1879.

The worm is probably the *curculio*, which is one of the most destructive enemies which the plum has. We have recently published several articles on the plum and the methods of preventing their destruction by the curculio. Those articles may be found in the numbers dated June 21st, July 12th and July 19th. Our trees which are protected from the ravages of the curculio by hens are so loaded with fruit that we have to pick off large quantities to keep the trees from being broken, and also to secure good sized fruit.—[ED.

WATER RIGHTS—"FARM LAW."

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Some time since, I think in December of 1878, you published in the *Ploughman*, an Essay delivered before the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, by Hon. Edmund H. Bennett, of Taunton, entitled "Some of the Legal Rights and Duties of Farmers," in which Mr. Bennett says—under the head water rights drainage—"If a stream of water flows through a farm, the owner has a right to use any reasonable quantity of it as it flows along, for watering his stock, irrigating his land, or supplying his house for domestic use."

Having full confidence in the instruction given us in that Essay, we obtained the right to take water from a stream before the stream reached our land and conducted it upon the land for irrigation, the watering of stock and greenhouse purposes. But here, as on nearly all the streams in Massachusetts, are mills whose thirsty wheels drink all the water they can get, and the owners put in engines to supply the deficiency. As soon as the mill owners discover that water is being diverted from the channel, they speedily assert that said water is their property, that a farmer has no right to divert water from a stream with mills upon it.

Now, Mr. Editor, what we would like to know is, did the farmer ever have a right to use the water flowing through his domain? If so, does the building of mills below, or the establishment of reservoirs above, for regulating the times of the flow of the water, take from the farmer said right, and if his right to the water be destroyed by the establishment of such mills and reservoirs, can the farmer recover damage for his loss? You may say that this is a case for your lawyer. Ask him. But we supposed one needed no better authority than the instructions given us by the Board of Agriculture. But the mill owners claim to have taken counsel in the matter and demand the water as their right. Is there no statute law on the subject? If not, has not this question been settled in the courts? It seems to me a very curious state of things, if our cauliflower and strawberry beds must dry up on the very banks of a stream, and our cattle go thirsty or be driven to the water, because we have no right to take water to our cattle. If the rights in irrigation as quoted, are modified by dams and mills, or destroyed utterly, an explanation through the columns of the *Ploughman*, would be thankfully received.

Northboro', Aug. 5, 1879. J. F. J.

Our correspondent may rest assured the above extract from Judge Bennett's lecture means what it says. The farmer has a right —a natural and inalienable right—to use any reasonable quantity of a stream flowing through his land for the purposes designated, and no less so, because there are "thirsty mills" on the same stream which want it all. They have no superior rights to the farmer, even though they are ancient mills, and have long used the whole water as it came to them. A farmer's right to water for necessary farming purposes would be a worthless right, if every mill owner could prevent his *exercise* of it. Each has a right to use a *reasonable* quantity, which amount is for a jury—mostly composed of farmers—to determine.—[ED.

BLOODY URINE.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will you please tell me through the *Ploughman* what ailed my calves? The first was a heifer three months old, the other a bull about two months old. They were fed on skimmed milk, with one-half pint of cotton seed meal and a little shorts twice each day. The first one was taken sick and lived two days. Gave her two doses of thoroughwort and salts, but did not do any good; it died the second night. On examination the gall was found to be twice as large as it ought to be; contents were thick. The water in the bladder was half blood or more, and the kidneys were as large as a full-grown animal. The other one died with the same, only was not sick so long.

Respectfully yours,

C. F. H.

Burrageville, Mass., Aug. 12*th*, 1879.

A description of the symptoms would have aided in forming an opinion of the nature of the disease of which the calves died. From the condition of the kidneys and the contents of the bladder, seen after death, the inference is that Hematuria (bloody urine) was the cause of the death of the animals. The disease occurs from many causes, violent sprains of the loins, blows over that region, also a poisoned condition of the blood.—[ED.

CUTTING AND CURING FODDER CORN.

[New York World.]

The fodder corn crop is one that merits not only a fitting preparation of ground and good culture but it calls for special care in harvesting and curing for winter use. In this country as yet the perfect curing of fodder corn is a somewhat difficult operation to many farmers. French cultivators, who give considerable attention to the crop, are beginning to adopt the ensilage system of preserving fodder, which has but few experimenters in this country. Here old method improvements are being made from season to season.

The difficulty of curing and saving corn in its immature state tempts many into allowing their fodder corn to become too ripe before cutting. Corn, however, is no exception to other forage crops in this respect, but ought to be cut for best results before it is out of bloom. Chemical analysis has shown that fodder deteriorates in two ways by standing in the field, viz., by the lessened proportion of albuminoids and by decreased digestibility. A minor objection to the crops standing until all the ears are formed is that the stalks grow so tall that they are troublesome to handle and are liable to fall and lodge under storms. Furthermore, early-lambs are all any ewe should bear; this will bring her to five years, and this is the age when, with a little extra care, she will round up to a full carcass. Exceptions may be made when the breed is scarce, and the blood is more desirable than anything else.

Corn for fodder should be harvested when it is dry and in fair weather; if possible let it be put in stocks and stand until cured, when it ought to have shelter either in barns, sheds or stacks. As it is somewhat difficult to cure corn fodder—owing to the quantity of water it contains—so that it can be stored in bulk without danger of heating, numerous devices have been applied to assist in the operation. An ingenious plan practiced in some sections consists of driving two crotched sticks into the ground and in the crotches laying a pole, against which the fodder is stacked to cure. The corn is piled on until about fifteen inches thick. The ends are left open for a free circulation of air. When the fodder is quite dry it is bound in bundles and housed or stacked.

Many farmers advocate the following method against the wholesale way of cutting fodder with a reaping-machine and gathering it like hay with rakes: "Cut the stalks with a common light corn-cutter, with the corn-cutter in the right hand and the cut corn under the left arm, and without dropping it on the ground form into erect snug shocks." By this arrangement it is contended that the fodder will dry well as it stands and may be allowed to remain all winter.

Not a few of our best farmers build some sort of a rack in preference to storing their fodder in a barn, even when they have plenty of space, because they believe it will not dry out and crumble up to the same extent. An Ohio farmer of some twenty years' or more experience in the matter at hand, after trying various ways of stacking fodder, prefers the following to all other modes, as none but the butts are exposed to the weather and a larger quantity can be placed close by the feeding place. He puts fifty shocks of one hundred hills each in a stack. A few sticks are placed on the ground to raise up the centre of the stack in order to shed rain from the butts throughout the entire stack. The stack is made of such diameter as to allow the tops of the bundles to lap and thus keep up the centre, a single row of bundles only forming the circle. The finishing of the stack is in form similar to an ordinary 100-hill shock and well tied with a band. If snow or sleet storm occurs, or a very heavy rain, an entire course is immediately removed and set on end until fed.

A rick of any length desired may be constructed by first laying in a spot where water will not stand a few sheaves or bundles lengthwise or the direction the stack is to be made, in order to raise the centre; then lay the sheaves crosswise with the butts out, lapping them sufficiently to keep the centre highest all the while. Build as high as is convenient and finish as you build; top out by laying a few sheaves lengthwise in the middle, over which stand others slanting so as to form a roof. Begin feeding from the end you left off. A fodder stack is not infrequently built, and very sensibly, too, with a column of ventilators running through the centre.

The Horse.

A WONDERFUL COLT.

[Journal of Agriculture.]

The authenticated last foal from the loins of the father of American trotters, was bred by his present owner, Dr. J. A. Sherman, proprietor of Battle Ground Stock Farm, near Freehold, Monmouth County, N. J. He was foaled April 5, 1876, and is said to be as remarkable in all the fine points of a trotter, as the renowned Dexter, or any of the old horse's get. His dam was by American Star. She has produced, besides "Hambletonian Last," several fine colts. One by Edward Everett that can trot in 2.20.

His last foal possesses all the remarkable characteristics without the coarseness of his sire. In color, he is a beautiful brown, with two white hind ankles, a small diamond mark on his upper lip, and a very slight sprinkling of white hairs in his forehead. He stands 15 1-2 hands, with a fine neck and throat latch, beautiful head and rather fine ears for the Hambletonian stock. He is wonderfully intelligent, docile and without a fault or blemish of any kind. No better set of limbs ever graced a horse. His beauty is enhanced by his fine mane and flowing tail, which sweeps the ground. In a word, he is a picture, and as perfectly molded as the most cunning fancy could conceive. In his two-year-old form, with but little handling, he could trot his quarters on a sandy track in forty-two seconds. His style is much like Dexter's, with such ease and grace that when trotting a forty gait by the watch, to the eye he seems to be trotting but a three-minute gait. The owner prides him as a jewel, though he has nearly a hundred head of fine stock, among which are several other remarkable young stallions by Rysdyk's Hambletonian.

CALIFORNIA CROPS.

[California Farmer.]

The first half year of 1879 has passed away, and yet, with the greatest general depression ever yet known on this coast, the great agricultural interest has been steadily advancing in spite of all these drawbacks, and, although there has been an unusual complaint among our farmers of "hard times," the exports of our agricultural products have been greater in the first half of 1879 than in 1878.

The prospective grain crop promises a very full yield, and, although they are late this year, we venture the assertion that the grain crop of 1879 will fully equal that of 1878.

The wool clip of the present year will be larger than the year of 1878, and its value by the recent rise will be much greater in value.

The fruit crop of California for 1879 shows that it will be immense in all the various departments; and now while the many fruit-preserving establishments of our State are working to their fullest means, and hundreds and thousands of cans of our fruit in a dried and preserved state, and in jellies and jams are shipped abroad almost every day to all parts of the world, our markets are daily overloaded with tens of thousands of boxes, cases and baskets of fruits of all kinds, and as fine and luscious fruits as the world can boast, while the cost of this fruit is very low.

The vineyards this year teem with promise of great abundance, and already so fruitful are the vines, and so strong in growth, that they already at the extremity of their branches show a second gathering of bunches, which should be nipped off even at some cost, that the full strength of the vine may be given to the main set of bunches.

The increase of the crop of nuts this year will be very large, English walnuts, almonds, chestnuts, and even Pecan nuts will give an immense yield, the latter (the Pecan) only small, being lately introduced.

Our raisin and fig crop is enormous and quality the very best—the "Blower raisins" are now esteemed so excellent as to displace the need of foreign importation, and so great is the demand for the "Blower raisins" that it exceeds the supply.

The other varied crops of our State are all good and very abundant, and we see no reason why our farmers and producers generally should not, by means of the crops of the present year, come out from under the clouds and shadows of the hard times and close up their year in a good and healthy condition.

☞ Wild chickens numbered by thousands are hunted as wild game in Comanche county, Texas. A few years ago a large number of domestic chickens were deserted for some reason, by their owner, when they took to the brush, and the woods are now full of them.

☞ Bone dust and potash make the best orchard fertilizer.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

SUGAR MANUFACTURE FROM SUGAR CANE IN LOUISIANA.

NUMBER III.

BY PROFESSOR C. A. GOESSMANN.

It has been my pleasure, during previous years, to report through the *Ploughman*,—June 9th, 1877 and February 9th, 1878,—the results of a series of experiments with various fertilizers upon sugar-cane at Calumet Plantation, Bayou Teche, La. The importance of the local agricultural as well as the general industrial interests involved in a successful solution of the object in view have induced the progressive and public spirited proprietor of that plantation,—Daniel Thompson, Esq., Pattersonville, Parish St. Mary, La.,—to continue his investigations, and to authorize, from time to time, a publication of his results for the benefit of those interested in the sugar industry of the country.

The original plan for the field work, which was carried out for two successive years has been abandoned. A new course of experiments, proposed by the writer, at the special request of Mr. Thompson, has taken its place since the spring of 1878. The change concerns the details and aims at a systematical application of the various fertilizing materials, for the purpose of imparting to the eventual results a better defined meaning. I had occasion to study, in previous years, the general topographical and geological features of the locality, where the experiments are conducted, when visiting the Bayou Teche, for several months, as expert in connection with a scientific expedition to inquire into its industrial and commercial resources. The physical condition of the soil on trial, as well as the nature of its constituents and latent natural resources of plant food I had, repeatedly, a good chance to ascertain by chemical tests. As the general character of the soil and the temporary supply of plant food,—as far as the kind and the amount of each article is concerned,—are known to exert, in most instances, for some time, a controlling influence on the quantity and the quality of the resulting crops, under circumstances like those under consideration, I recommended a time-honored and well endorsed mode of operation, which, intelligently carried out, cannot fail to secure to the careful observer in a practical way much valuable information; a mode which every intelligent farmer may turn to account, to some degree at least, for personal instruction in his own industry. In the making up of the compound manures, the refuse materials from southern branches of agricultural industry have been for obvious reasons, in several instances, selected. Two points, which the history of field-experiments with fertilizers, in an unqualified manner, endorses, were before hand conceded; *namely, the results obtained from experiments extending over a certain number of years are only entitled to a serious consideration; and even well established results are in most instances, essentially of local value.* The general interest which a well devised series of field experiments with fertilizers may claim consists chiefly in its educational influence, serving as a lesson for similar investigations in other localities. With these qualifications, the subsequent detailed report of Mr. Thompson's first year's work, upon the new plan, is not without some interest to those engaged in agricultural field experiments in general.

The lands engaged in the trial consist of sixteen acres in one level body. All parts of the area are equally well drained; the soil is, so far as a general appearance may tell, of an uniform mechanical and chemical condition; a fine dark brown clayish loam, rich in rooty fibres. The entire ground has been treated alike since 1863; it was left uncultivated from that year until 1871 on account of the war, and served subsequently, alternately, for the production of corn and sugar-cane. Pea-vines were raised at certain intervals for green-manuring, with the exception of 1876, when 500 pounds of cotton seed meal, per acre, was used as a fertilizer. The entire field has been divided into sixteen plats, each one acre in size. Individual plats are separated by three rows of cane, of six feet each, making eighteen feet of unfertilized space between two adjoining plats. The canes have been harvested in the same order as the plats are numbered; the grinding began on the 9th of December and closed on the 16th of December. One day passed by, on an average, between the cutting and the grinding of each lot of cane. The latter were thus from twenty-four to thirty-six hours cut before the test of the juice by the polariscope, etc., could be attended to. The season was very favorable for the cultivation of sugar-cane. In consequence of the absence of Mr. Thompson during the beginning of the grinding season the crops of the first four plats failed to be recorded and tested, much to his displeasure. The entire experiment, I am advised is to be repeated, in all its details, during the present season. (See accompanying table.)

The results although in several instances quite remarkable are on the whole by no means unusual. Without any intention to enter, at this early stage of the investigation, upon a detailed discussion of the various experiments, it seems quite safe to assume, first, that *the richness of the soil* still largely controls the results; and second, that *a different degree of maturity of the cane*, from the various plats, exerts a serious influence on the total amount of available *cane*-sugar as stated above. The last named circumstance is plainly shown by the remarkable differences noticeable in the percentage yield of the juice from the different lots of cane—varying from 52.2 to 66.2 per cent; and also by the not less striking differences in the composition of the juice indicated by the results of the specific gravity test by means of the saccharometer, which represents the relative total amount of solid matter in solution in the juice, and the tests by the polariscope, which expresses only the relative amount of cane sugar present in the latter. The actual differences in these tests are due to the presence of more or less foreign nitrogenous and non-nitrogenous substances.

As the above described experiments are instituted mainly for the purpose of finding a fertilizer which will assist in producing, upon a given area, the largest amount of sugar-cane possible, and, at the same time, a cane which contains, in its juice, the highest possible percentage of cane sugar, under favorable circumstances for separation, the subject of inquiry is of more than ordinary intricacy. A brief reference to experiments No. one and No. thirteen may not be without interest in this connection. Upon these two plats the total amount of available sugar and of canes differ in quite different proportions: for the excess of sugar exceeds that of the cane nearly three to one in favor of plat No. one. This plat had received as fertilizer only gypsum (sulphate of lime) at a money value of $2,50 per acre; whilst No. thirteen had received, what ordinarily would be designated a complete fertilizer, containing besides a liberal amount of potassa, phosphoric acid, and nitrogen, a considerable share of sulphate of lime or gypsum, the whole at a money value of $14.45 per acre. To ascribe, judging merely by the yield of sugar and cane, to the gypsum alone a higher power for aiding in the production of vegetable matter—cane sugar included, than to the combined effect of a liberal additional supply of all the essential mineral constituents of plants, as in the case of No. thirteen, would be in contradiction to the teachings of the best established experimental observations in agriculture. A continuation of these experiments, it may be confidently expected, will find a more satisfactory explanation in a favorable re-action of the gypsum on either the physical condition or the chemical composition of a rich soil, or in some unsuspected combination of circumstances favorable to an early maturing of the canes. [The sugar industry of Louisianna has to contend to some considerable degree against climatical disadvantages The harvest of the cane has to begin at an early date to escape the destructive influence of the frost. The planter of Cuba begins his operations frequently after the sugar season of Louisiana has closed. As the formation of the cane-sugar in the sugar-cane, similar to that noticed in other sugar-bearing plants, takes place, largely, during the last stages of its growth, it seems essential for the best success attainable in Louisiana, and similarly situated localities, to ascertain in particular the circumstances which favor an early meturity of the cane without interfering with its normal development. Systems of cultivation as well as of fertilization are known to exert, each in their own way, more or less influence on the duration of the period of growth. To study besides, systematically by chemical and optical tests the changes which the composition of the cane juice suffers during the advancing growth of the sugar-cane can only increase the chances of success. The history of the growth of the sugar-cane in Louisiana is but little known.]

Results of Experiments with Fertilizers upon Plant Cane at Calumet Plantation, Bayou Teche, Louisiana, 1878.—Plats One Acre Each.

No. of Plat.	Material used as Fertilizer.	Quantity used in pounds.	Quantity of soluble constituents of the Fertilizers, in pounds.	Total cost of Fertilizer.	Per ct. of Juice Extracted.	Weight of Cane raised in lbs.	Density per cent Saccharometer	Result of Polarisation.	Tot ams of sugar avail'le in lbs.	Rem'ks.
1	Muriate of Potash	200	Potash 167.5	$4.56						Results lost.
2	Sulphate of Potash	250	Potash 132.5	$7.70						
3	Cotton Seed Hull Ash	500	Potash 100.	$5.00						
4	Air Slacked Lime	500		$2.50						
5	Gypsum	500		$3.80	52.2	57,330	15.	14.5	4396.	..
6	Acid Phos. Lime	500	Pho. Acid 72.5	$8.90	54.8	56,030	14.5	12.5	3960.	..
7	Sulphate Ammonia	150	Ammonia 26.	$8.25	64.	49,630	14.	11.5	3074.	..
8	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Acid Pho. Lime	500 500	Potash 100. Pho. Acid 72.5	$12.66	62.	46,770	15.	13.	3786.	..
9	Air Slacked Lime Cotton Seed Hull Ash	500 500		$7.50	61.8	42,250	15.	12.6	3292.	..
10	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Gypsum	500 500		$8.60	60.9	46,190	15.	13.	3497.	..
11	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Cotton Seed Meal	500 500	Potash 110.33 Ammonia 41.66 Pho. Acid 18.53	$10.00	61.6	56,150	14.5	11.	3811.	..
12	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Tankage	500 500	Potash 100. Pho. Acid 72. Ammonia 42.	$11.00	62.2	52,900	14.5	11.5	3815.	..
13	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Cotton Seed Meal Acid Pho. Lime	500 500 250	Potash 110.33 Ammonia 41.66 Pho. Acid 88.	$14.45	63.1	57,670	14.5	10.	3643.	..
14	Cotton Seed Hull Ash Tankage Acid Pho. Lime	500 500 250	Potash 100. Ammonia 42. Pho. Acid 106.	$15.45	66.	54,500	14.	10.	3495.	..
15	Acid Pho. Lime Nitrate of Soda Sulphate Potash	480 250 250	Pho. Acid 85. Soda 87.5 Potash 162. Nitric Acid 36.75 =to Ammonia 47.11	$26.60	66.2	54,940	14.	8.6	2213.	..
16	Nothing				57.3	39,400	15.	12.	2687.	..

The Sheepfold.

COTSWOLDS AND LEICESTERS.

[Western Rural.]

Cotswold and Leicester sheep, when of excellent form and quality, are very profitable near a city market, as they can be marketed at all ages. There is a want of interest and attention among farmers adjacent to our large cities and towns in regard to mutton sheep. In England and in portions of Canada this department of sheep industry receives the attention it deserves, but in this country, and particularly around our Western cities, there is great room for improvement. Some fine specimens of mutton sheep occasionally make their appearance in this market, but they are the exception rather than the rule. Mutton is exceedingly healthy and nutritious food, the flesh of no other animal is more so, and it would enter more largely into our food products if the quality which is sent to market was of a higher order than the great bulk of it now is; and we repeat, therefore, that near a city market, where they may be sold at all ages, they combine elements of profit which make them especially desirable.

☞ Many small farmers in France pay their rents from their poultry yards. The fowls in Normandy, France, are almost exclusively of the Crevecœur breed in its different varieties. The number of poultry in Normandy is three million five hundred thousand, estimated at the value of £2,400,000, and the annual value of fowl's eggs alone is £250,000 to the farmers. The average annual produce per hen is about one hundred eggs, and a hen will continue to lay for five years.

☞ The manure of cows and pigs resists decomposition for a longer time than that of the sheep and horse—both the latter being dryer than the former and decomposing more readily in the soil.

MILKING.

[Prairie Farmer.]

The faster and more gentle a cow is milked, the greater will be the amount given. Slow milkers always gradually dry up a cow, and for the reason that if the milk be not drawn about as fast as it is given down it will subsequently be withheld, and that withheld, is as a matter of course what is known as the strippings, in fact, the upper surface of milk in the udder. Many milkers draw the milk with a strong downward pull, in fact, with a jerk. This should never be allowed; it irritates the cow, and often injures the bag. Fill the teat and with a firm pressure of the last three fingers empty it, drawing slightly on the teat and udder at the same time; so proceed alternately with each hand until the milk supply is exhausted. Many milkers get the habit of slow milking because steady, firm, quick milking tires the fingers and wrists, until by practice the muscles get used to the work. Until this use comes naturally the individual should only milk such a number as they can without severe cramping of the hands; what are milked should be milked fast, increasing the number until at last there is no tiring whatever. Five minutes is about the limit that should be allowed for milking a cow. There is another thing well worthy of being remembered. Cows should be milked as as possible, since undue distention of the udder is always injurious.

TIE UP THE GRAPE VINES.

Valuable Grape Vines, planted with great care, are often left to take care of themselves at this season of the year—when they need care most. For the first two years a good, stout stake, say six feet long, is all that is necessary for a support. This should be firmly set in the ground *and the vines kept tied to it.* Should other shoots start from the old wood, rub them off and keep lateral shoots pinched back to one or two leaves. Remove all injurious insects by hand, and dust with flour of sulphur should mildew appear.

The Apiary.

HABITS OF HONEY BEES.

[Planter and Grange.]

The honey bee is a model of neatness as well as of industry. The infallible instin

may become a sharp competitor of "Old Middlesex" in the furnishing of the milk supply for the Boston market, the demand for which is increasing from year to year; and as the trade now is nearly two and a half millions of dollars yearly, it will soon amount to three millions.

Farmers in Western Massachusetts may then send their milk to Boston under the provisions of the law printed above, instead of New York, as they now do, and Boston may secure their trade which now goes where their milk does. The transportation of milk from Berkshire, with the river counties and Worcester County, may cost a little more than from Middlesex, Norfolk, Bristol and Essex Counties, but farms cost less in the former counties where taxes are also less than in the eastern counties. Let farmers now wake up to this subject and no longer complain of low prices. If pure milk be furnished the quantity required will be much greater than now, and this may serve to lessen the water tax in Boston. Would it not be an interesting investigation for the Boston Milk Inspector, who reports annually the number of gallons of milk sold in Boston, to ascertain how many gallons are bought to furnish the amount sold? If he can ascertain the number of gallons of milk brought into Boston annually, then it might be as easy to determine the proportion of the Cochituate to the quantity of milk sold, as it now is to tell whence comes the supply of cream that furnishes the large demand for it.

In order to make a Milk Sellers' Association a success in Massachusetts, it is necessary that all who wish to engage in furnishing the supply for the Boston demand for milk should unite and co-operate for the accomplishment of so desirable an end as this for all who are engaged in milk-husbandry in Massachusetts. This will bring milk producers and consumers nearer together, the former getting more for his product and the latter paying less and getting a better article. Neither producers nor consumers, if they reflect, can fail to see, (however it may be with contractors and peddlers,) that a market system that pays the farmers but *two cents a quart* for whole milk and charges consumers in Boston *seven cents a quart*, (the cans of which milk may have been "topped," and hence, though the milk be not adulterated, it is not whole milk,) is a very unsatisfactory way of doing business, both to the makers of milk and to the consumers thereof. Look at it just as it is; here were five cents on every quart of milk of the 41,253,760 quarts of milk sold in Boston last year, to be divided between the contractors and the peddlers, the former having paid the farmers two cents a quart as about an average price, sometimes a little more and sometimes less. Is this just either to producers or consumers? Let the reader answer. It is this state of things that is now prompting milk producers to move in the organization of a Milk Sellers' Association.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 1879.

SIXTEENTH NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

Headquarters New England Agricultural Society, } No. 45 Milk Street, Boston, July 29, 1879.

To the Farmers, Stock Raisers, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Artizans of New England.

The New England Agricultural Society will hold its Sixteenth Annual Exhibition in the city of Worcester, Massachusetts, on the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th days of September next. The reputation of the New England Agricultural Society, as established by its preceding Fairs, held as they have been in all of the New England States, brings together large numbers of men, recognized leaders in all the great and important industries of life, from every part of the United States and Canada.

The exhibitions have also been large and complete in almost every department.

Such an opportunity to exhibit the results of study, experience and labor is offered by no society in the United States; and we cordially invite all men and women interested in the industries of the country and in its welfare to be present at our exhibition, and so far as they can, for purposes of competition or exhibition, to make public the fruits of their skill and industry and labor.

The immense Rink at Worcester, located in the very heart of the city, and one of the largest buildings in New England, has been secured for the exhibit of household manufactures—corporation manufactures, musical and other instruments, sewing machines, statuary and paintings, and such other work of skill and delicacy as may be better displayed under the protection of a more substantial covering than can be offered on the Fair Grounds.

We can assure the public that nothing will be left undone by the officers of the New England Society to make this sixteenth exhibit fully equal to any of its preceding Fairs.

Letters directed to Daniel Needham, Secretary Boston Mass., or to Geo. H. Estabrook, Secretary Worcester Agricultural Society, Worcester, Mass., will receive prompt attention.

Premium Lists and Posters sent in response to postal cards to any address in the United States and Canadas.

DANIEL NEEDHAM,
Secretary New England Agricultural Society.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE RAILROADS AND THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The following railroads have already responded to Secretary Needham's letter, agreeing to carry stock and articles for exhibition to the New England Fair and return the same to the place of starting for rates one way—to be prepaid and at the owner's risk.

Other roads will be added to this list as fast as heard from.

Concord (N. H.) Railroad.
Boston, Barre and Gardner Railroad.
Boston and Maine Railroad.
Connecticut River Railroad.
Connecticut Central Railroad.
Boston and New York Air Line Railroad.
Housatonic Railroad.
Piovidence, Warren and Bristol Railroad.
Northern Railroad.
Concord and Claremont Railroad.
Springfield, Athol and Northwestern.
Boston and Providence.
Danbury and Norwalk Railroad.
Naugatuck Railroad.
New Haven and Derby Railroad.
Nashua and Lowell Railroad.
New York, Providence and Boston Railroad.
Fitchburg Railroad.
Passumpsic Railroad.
Boston and Albany Railroad.
Providence and Worcester Railroad.
Maine Central Railroad.
New London Northern Railroad.
Connecticut Valley Railroad.
Eastern Railroad.
Providence and Springfield Railroad.
Worcester and Nashua Railroad.
Old Colony Railroad (Northern Division.)
Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad.
Old Colony Railroad.
Cheshire Railroad.
Central Vermont Railroad.
New York and New England Railroad, carry freight for fare one way.
Portand and Rochester Railroad.
Rochester and Nashua Railroad.

DANIEL NEEDHAM, *Secretary.*
Boston, July 30th, 1879.

The rain storm which prevailed for 48 hours in the early part of the week extended over a wide extent of country and has been of inestimable advantage to the crops. Previous to its occurrence corn in many localities had begun to wilt, and the late potatoes showed signs of a short crop. The upland pastures too had become dry and sere and the prospects of the dairymen for an abundance of fall feed were not at all encouraging. The range of the storm extended from Florida at the South and Nebraska at the West and it seems to have swept over the whole extent of country, included between those two points and Eastport in Maine. Nothing could have been more timely than this widely extended rainfall and its value only be reckoned in hundreds of millions of dollars. Of course, in some localities, slight damage has been done to growing crops by the high wind and a superabundance of moisture, but these losses are of no account when measured by the fact that over the vast territory covered by the storm all dangers of a drought have been removed and thereby a greatly increased production assured of all the good things of life by which the farmers of the United States earn by the sweat of their brow not only their daily bread but all the comforts and conveniences of our advanced civilization.

THE APPROACHING NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The time for holding the New England Fair is rapidly approaching. Only one more week remains for work. Preparation is rapidly going forward on the grounds at Worcester and we can safely say, that nothing will be left undone to meet the wants of exhibitors and visitors.

Already a large number of entries have been made in almost every department, and if last year's Fair was great and attractive the Fair of 1879 promises to be more so.

This must be our last appeal to the farmers, the mechanics, the men who represent industry in all its varied forms. Send in your entries and make ready to come yourselves with your wives and other members of your households.

The arrangements for accommodation at Worcester are on a most extensive scale. A Committee on entertainment will be constantly ready at Headquarters, on the Fair Grounds, to give information where most acceptable entertainment and lodging, at a minimum rate can be procured. No one need stay away for fear of want of room. There will be room for all and good room at that.

The railroad arrangements are almost perfect. All stock and articles of exhibition are to be transported over the numerous lines of roads published in our columns, at half rates—that is to say—one full payment pays for transportation and return to place of starting. We invite a careful perusal of the list of railroads, that have thus magnanimously tendered in behalf of a great public interest, this needed help.

Reduction of fare is also to be made on many lines. The Boston & Albany will carry for half fare on its entire line for the whole four days. This will be the means of inducing many people to come from Albany and other parts of the State of New York.

The New England Fair has never failed to attract immense crowds of people—and although at times, sixty thousand people have been in attendance on a single day, there has always been the most perfect order maintained without any resort to police force.

The beautiful city of Worcester, in the very centre of the Old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is thoroughly interested in the great exhibition. She will put on her holiday attire and decorate her streets and thoroughfares in gala costume for the great event.

Her Committee of hospitality is composed of her ex-mayors and other leading citizens, and the Chief Marshal is the Hon. Charles B. Pratt, the present Mayor of the city.

Additional ground has been added to the original Park and a large number of new sheds and stalls have been constructed.

It will be remembered that last year, the evening meetings of the farmers, presented unusual attraction. Great effort is being made to secure for these meetings as much interest as they won in 1878.

We can only say in conclusion, come to the New England Fair of 1879 at Worcester, Mass. Come and bring the best of your herds—the best of your flocks—the best work of your hand. If it is a great contribution that you can make to this gathering in of New England's skill and handiwork do not allow any impediment to prevent your making it, if it is only a trifle, remember that life is made up of trifles and what may appear small to you may meet a great want in your brother man.

If you have nothing to bring, then come yourselves and see and study the works of others and gather an inspiration which will impart new zest to your life and give activity that shall make you a more welcome toiler among the laborers of mankind.

The violent and protracted storm that swept along the entire Atlantic coast on Monday night was an unusual occurrence in August, and caused the widest destruction where it swept. On the New England coast the gale was one of extreme severity, and there were numerous shipwrecks with a large loss of life.

THE PREMIUM LIST.

This List has been before the farming community of New England a sufficient time to allow a careful and sagacious selection to be made from its pages by every one who desires to do public honor to his chosen calling by becoming a contributor to the Fair. It is therefore useless to invite the attention of farmers to any particular part of what has doubtless closely engaged their attention as a whole. We undertake to say of the List, however, that it has never been surpassed in substantial and even brilliant attractions for exhibitors. No one of them all can assert that his chosen specialty has not been fairly represented on these attractive pages. The premiums have been liberally arranged, so that for all reasonable anticipations there can be no disappointment. The selection of the judges has been made with unusual care, and the conditions of competition are laid down with constant reference to the strictest fairness. The rules and regulations for the management of the entire Exhibition are exposed to the view of all in advance. And it will be seen that, in the case of a Fair of such extended proportions, it will be necessary for exhibitors to give early notice to the Secretaries by correspondence, that they may have allotted to them all that in reason they could claim as competitors. It is of great importance that all who propose to become exhibitors shall make themselves familiar with these regulations in advance of action, that they may be assisted as well as protected by them.

A close study of the several points of excellence both in animals and in products will well repay exhibitors before making their selections of what they will forward for exhibition. It will guide them in their own judgment by being informed beforehand of what is to be given the judges at the last. The railroads centering at Worcester have agreed to transport stock and other articles for exhibition for a single fare, pre-payment to be made at the place of loading the same. The Horticultural department of the Exhibition, as represented in the Premium List, will to a very numerous class both of exhibitors and attendants prove specially interesting. Its long line of prizes are spread out temptingly, all will not fail to have their due effect on a great many who propose to join the throng of contributors. The department of agricultural implements always draws the widest attention, not only from farmers but from mechanics and those who are interested in applied machinery. And the several other branches of the Exhibition will attract attention each in its turn, all together making up a show that for the largest suggestiveness and the noblest and most impressive effect it would be difficult to parallel anywhere in the long catalogue of exhibitions. If there is not enough in this Premium List to inspire farmers with enthusiasm and make them feel proud of their vocation, it would be hard even for themselves to say what could be supplied to make good the deficiency!

A GENERAL TURNOUT.

In order to make the approaching New England Fair at Worcester imposing in a degree corresponding to its real merits, there should at once be adopted a general resolve from one end of New England to the other to turn out in large numbers and convert the Great Exhibition into a practical celebration. No farmer should think his farm fairly represented at Worcester who does not bring with him a due representation of his family, for which his acres are held and tilled and whose highest interests they are made to seave. The show of stock and produce is a matter of course, for these represent the land and the work done upon it; but the show of the members of the family, of those who perform the work early and late through the changing seasons, this is an exhibition that crowns the other with its highest visible honor. We cannot too strongly impress upon farmers the necessity, as well as the propriety, of attending fully to this essential demand which the coming event makes upon them. If it were once generally understood that the great body of the farming community were thus to be greeted and received by the larger public outside of it, there would be increased reason for gatherings at the annual Agricultural Fair which would cause the latter to rank at once at the head of all our public festivities. It is the family and the domestic spirit that clothes farming with its chief attractions, and should consequently become conspicuous at the holding of its Fairs.

The intelligence daily received from the conjoint management and direction of the coming Fair convinces us that there is to be an assemblage of people, as well as of interests, on that occasion such as Agriculture has never succeeded in collecting in New England before. The citizens of Worcester keenly alive to the disappointment caused by the weather last year, intend that nothing shall be left undone this year to testify to their interest in the exhibition, and their profound respect and admiration for the great class whose service to society it celebrates. The managers of the principal railroads throughout New England are hardly less eager to advance the interests of agriculture by bringing their charges within the reach of all who wish to contribute to the general exhibition. In the remotest quarters of agricultural New England, as in the tree-boughs when the spring sun advances, signs of sympathetic activity are perceptible, which are certain to produce substantial fruitage in the first week of September. To these welcome proofs of co-operative activity and enthusiasm we add our own urgent appeal, that the coming Fair be improved by farmers everywhere and to the utmost; that they pay out of their choicest and best products, and come themselves as personal vouchers for the quality of their work. The sixteenth New England Fair should be, as we fully believe it will be, the crown of the whole series and the glory of the farmers that assemble to participate.

HON. DANIEL NEEDHAM has accepted an invitation to deliver the annual address at the New Hampshire State Fair, at Dover, September 18th.

"MIXED FARMING."

It is in vain for the farmers of New England upon their lean and hungry soils to compete in the markets of the country and of the world with their brethren who occupy the cheap virgin lands of the west, in the production of grain, where the sale of a single crop in a single good season pays for the land and all the improvements besides. But this fact need not be a cause for discouragement to any owner of a New England farm, for the changed conditions of the last few years may be made to inure to his benefit, if he is wise enough to note the signs of the times. The *Ploughman* has always been the advocate of "mixed farming," that is, a variety of crops (all the eggs never to be put in one basket), and that each man, in his own locality should give his attention to those crops which will pay him the largest profit for the labor bestowed. With corn selling in Boston for half a dollar a bushel or thereabouts, it is folly to attempt to raise corn at a profit upon New England farms; but there are crops which involve a great deal less of labor and expense, but perhaps a little more care and attention which will yield far better returns. In the neighborhood of cities and manufacturing towns, the cabbage can be cultivated at a large profit; and the time never has been when asparagus was produced in such great quantities as to glut the market and afford a poor man an opportunity to give his family a full meal of this wholesome esculent.

The cultivation of berries is also a branch of industry that pays well, and never better than in recent years. If the farmers of Virginia, Carolina, and Georgia can make a handsome profit in raising strawberries for the Boston market, why may not the farmers of Massachusetts and other New England States enter the lists in honorable competition? Blackberries this week have been selling for eighteen cents a quart. The transportation is cheap, and the expense of cultivation is light. A single acre of either of these favorite fruits will yield a larger profit than 20 acres of corn, and the crop is as easily handled and can be converted into cash when the farmer most wants his money in the spring or early summer, at the time the taxes are to be paid and the improvements upon the farm can be best carried on. There is another branch of farming to which we especially desire to call the attention of those New England farmers who are complaining that "farming does not pay," and that is "Sheep husbandry." In Massachusetts we have a "dog law" that insures the protection of the flocks, all over the State, or an indemnity in case of damage by dogs. Wool is always a cash article—quite as "good as wheat" at all times, and early spring lambs always command quick sales and a high price. With a little extra care and attention there are few farmers in New England who cannot count upon a larger income from a couple of good South Down or Cotswold ewes than from an acre of corn or potatoes, if they will make a careful study of the laws of breeding, have the lambs come forward early, and if need be, favored with a little artificial heat in their infancy. Good manure and plenty of it has an excellent effect upon all soils, but where the supply is deficient the best concomitant for what there may be, in order to procure the best results, is brains.

THE RAIN STORM.

During the continuous rain of Sunday and Monday last, the quantity of water which fell in Boston as reported by the officers of the National Signal Corps, was three and one-third inches. By some of the rain-guages in adjacent towns, the rain fall was shown to have a depth of four and a half inches. The weight of such a body of water is hardly ever realized by those who receive its benefits upon their parched lands; a rainfall of twelve inches on a level would amount on an acre containing 43,560 square feet to 43,560 cubic feet weighing 2,700,000. Dividing this by twelve, the weight of a rainfall of one inch, it would be on an acre 225,060 pounds. The rain-fall in this vicinity on Sunday and Monday last was somewhat over five inches. Calling it five inches, the weight falling on every acre was 1,125,000 pounds or 560 tons. It is hard to realize the fact that such an enormous weight of water could be suspended in the clouds over every acre, and in its descent be so evenly distributed as to be a blessing rather than an injury, yet such is the fact.

THE RAILROADS AND THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

We call the attention of our readers to the long list of railroads published in our columns to-day that have signified their intention to be co-workers with the New England Agricultural Society in the coming Fair.

We take great pride in referring to this matter of interest on the part of the railroads. Let New England farmers and mechanics show their appreciation of this co-operation by availing themselves of this great opportunity to display to the thousands of intelligent people who will gather at Worcester the first of September, the results of New England enterprise and skill.

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics reports the arrival in New York during the month of July last of 16,432 passengers 12,710 of whom were immigrants. Of the whole number, there were from England 2641, Ireland 1800, Germany 2912, Norway 517, and Russia 612. The State of Wisconsin considers it of so much importance to secure a portion of this immigration that it has established an Immigration Bureau, the officers of which are permanently in New York, for the purpose of advising with the new comers and urging them to settle upon the cheap and fertile lands of that thriving State.

Hon. E. Hasket Derby, of Boston, has written a very sensible letter to the Mayor, urging the abandonment of the present costly plans for discharging the sewerage of the city into the outer harbor, and utilizing the same for agricultural purposes, upon the large tract of unproductive and unoccupied land between Neponset and Mt. Wallaston on two sides and the granite quarries and the harbor on the others. Mr. Derby cites the experience of several European cities to show, not only that a million of dollars can be directly saved to the city by the method he suggests, but that the valuation of it will be vastly augmented of all the towns upon the South Shore which are situated in such a manner as to receive the fertilizing outflow of the city sewers.

The city has been freshly shocked, while at the same time satisfied, by the speedy discovery by the police of the murderers of Mr. Frye, the gentleman who was murdered in his own house in Joy street, on the night of Aug. 14th. Four young Italians are the criminals, the oldest of whom is twenty-five years old and the youngest only sixteen. He had taken the latter into his friendship, who rewarded him by concoeting this diabolical conspiracy to murder and rob him. All the stolen property has been recovered.

Fall River has been thrown into a fresh excitement this week by the unexpected arrest of George B. Durfee, ex-treasurer of the Mechanics' Mill, and the sudden flight of Walter Paine, 2d., the defaulting treasurer of the American Linen Mill. He is believed to have fled the country, and it is thought his fraudulent operations are greater than have been reported.

Stricken Memphis.—It may be of no present service to speak of what might have been done by the citizens of Memphis, after their dreadful experience of last year; nevertheless, the rest of the country which contributed between four and five millions in money, besides unreckoned comforts and aids in other ways, for the relief of the sufferers would seem to have a plain right to speak, so long as its sympathy and charity are liable to be appealed to without perceptible limit. The first duty of Memphis was to make untiring efforts to eradicate every hidden germ of the contagion during the continuance of the cold weather. It should have relied on fumigation and frost as the surest ally. And the next duty was to perfect the drainage of the city and leave no seed-beds in which the disease could germinate. Neither of these duties appear to have been attended to, and the result is what might have been expected, and what we now see reported from that infected locality from day to day.

Mr. Stewart's Remains.—It is not a very interesting subject to write about, but it nevertheless forms a subject for current gossip. The story runs that there were five robbers in all, the name of one of whom is known. They have recently tried to negotiate for the delivery of the body through P. K. Jones, formerly Postmaster of New York and late Register. The sum demanded by them for giving up the body was $200,000, but Judge Hilton refused to give more than $25,000, which was the amount of the reward originally offered for the return of the body, with no regard to the conviction of the thieves. These negotiations are reported to be now pending. A stone-cutter in New York, who had much to do with the Cardiff Giant hoax, promises to secure the robbers for Mr. Stewart's grave if Judge Hilton will furnish him with sufficient money. A gentleman of position in New York is quoted as saying that it is hard to say how far negotiations have positively gone, but he feels very certain that the transfer of the stolen body has already been effected and that Judge Hilton has it safe at the present time.

Wheat for Europe.—A New York journal says it is now clear that the United States will be able to export to Europe of this year's crop not less than 160,000,000 bushels, and possibly 200,000,000 bushels. The latter figures are estimated to be nearer the mark. The European demand on us last year was for 159,000,000 bushels, out of a crop aggregating 400,000,000 bushels. The current deficiency in Europe is estimated to be not less than 225,000,000 bushels, not including that of France or England, which together will not want less than 200,000,000 bushels additional. The expected demand of Europe is so high that it will easily absorb our entire surplus, which may be safely counted on to exceed somewhat that of last year. High prices abroad are not counted on, yet with cheap land and ocean transportation the profits to the farmer cannot fail to be satisfactory.

The Mormon Emigration Question.—Secretary Evarts having instructed the consular representatives of the United States, in Northern Europe to use their official influence to prevent the increase of Mormonism in this country by opposing emigration of Mormon converts, the *London Times* comments on the proposal in a very candid and suggestive manner, in this wise: "The suggestion that European Governments should exert their influence to prevent continued accession to the deluded adherents to Mormonism is easily made, but as soon as we examine it we are confronted with new difficulties which would apparently impede its adoption. No European government can be otherwise than desirous that gross superstition should be speedily dissipated, but we do not see any way to direct interference, though the migration commissioners might distribute tracts at their outposts. Furthermore, if the United States should determine to forbid the landing of any Mormon proselytes it would be necessary for them to declare the profession of Mormonism to be an offence in itself and to institute a kind of inquisition over the religious opinions of immigrants. It is scarcely conceivable that legislation should go to this length, yet such measures would alone be efficacious. Whatever may be done by Congress, the British Parliament would never give the Executive power to interfere with Mormon emigrants. When the suggestions of the United States are before us in detail they may modify the impression produced by the telegram. At present we see many difficulties, and owners of trans-Atlantic lines may suggest others. Their obligations as public carriers may constrain them to take all passengers who may offer themselves."

Taft's Larder.—A Providence lady has been taking a drive down to Point Shirley from Boston, and enjoying one of the dinners for which that little spot has become so famous. She has undertaken a description of the interior of the host's larder, while awaiting the preparation of her dinner. The fish and game are arranged in three compartments of the large refrigerator. In the central one, the fish, daintily prepared for cooking, lie on beds of ice adorned with flowers, a Spanish mackerel and a few other beautiful specimens of the finny tribe being thrown among them. The other two compartments are devoted to birds, lying on similar couches, and without their feathers looking as much like one another as peas in a pod, except in size. A few birds of lovely plumage repose among their despoiled companions, while neatness and cleanliness rule in all the arrangements. Peeps are strung like beads on sticks, and tiny humming-birds lay in nut shells.

READ AND RUN.

—A young woman in Lynn had been discovered to have been indulging in the habit of writing fraudulent notices of deaths for the newspapers her own obituary being included in the number.

—The engineers of the Old Colony Railroad appeared, according to notification, before the Railroad Commissioners last Friday, to undergo an examination for the purpose of ascertaining if any of them were afflicted with color blindness.

—The peach trains come to town daily, each more heavily laden than its predecessor.

—A hearing was given, one day last week, by the Railroad Commissioners on the project of Edward Atkinson for the development of the South Boston Flats.

—The Prohibitory State Convention will be held at Worcester on the 24th of September.

—Prof. George Long, of England, distinguished for his scholarship, and a fellow student with Macaulay at Cambridge, died last week at the age of eighty.

—Almost one-half of the City Departments are at the present time located outside of City Hall, at an annual cost of $20,000.

—A recent census of the population of Kansas makes the population of that vigorous young State at this time just inside 850,000.

—The labor question has been making serious trouble of late all along the line of the Grand Trunk Railway.

—The contract for furnishing the marble to complete the Washington Monument has been awarded to Mr. Briggs, of Sheffield, Mass., whose bid was 88 cents per cubic foot, and he had five competitors.

—It is stated that the object of the letter to our diplomatic representatives abroad on the subject of Mormom emigration to this country was, to properly set forth the charges against Mormonism, so that a public discussion in the foreign press would follow and thus make the truth known to all classes.

—One of the proprietors of the Hathorn Spring at Saratoga, was cowhided by a man from Savannah, who fancied that Mr. H. had offered an insult to his wife.

—The Mississippi planters and merchants have sent a party of colored men at their own expense into Kansas, to give such blacks as desire to go there and judge the country for themselves a fair opportunity without any charge.

—The destruction of Tremont Temple by fire, on Thursday night of last week, was the event of the season locally, thus far.

—The new Brigham Academy, erected in Bakersfield, Vt., according to the provisions of the will of the late Peter B. Brigham, of this city, was dedicated on Wednesday of last week in the presence of a large assembly. The executors of the will made brief remarks.

—Judge Hilton will now say that the body of the late A. T. Stewart has not been recovered.

—Twenty-five railroad lines have formed an union for the advance of prices in eastward boand freight, to take effect August 25th.

—The Pope's health is said to have seriously declined of late, and his physicians recommend a change of air.

—A collision occurred last week on a narrow guage railroad near Philadelphia, and five persons were killed.

—The tobacco crop for the entire length of the Connecticut Valley will be superior to any raised for many years.

—Princess Louise will visit England in October. She has invited a number of her English friends to pass the winter with her at Rideau Hall, in Ottawa.

—The 102d anniversary of the battle of Bennington was duly celebrated in that town last Saturday.

—The term of a convict in the Illinois penitentiary was not to expire until September, but in order that he might reach London in time to personally share in the division of an estate the prison authorities obligingly procured his pardon on the 1st inst.

—The South will raise this year 5,000,000 bales or cotton, 200,000 hogsheads of sugar, and and nearly, 800,000,000 pounds of tobacco.

—Confidence has fully returned to our savings banks, which was in due time to have been expected.

—The camp meeting people had a pretty hard opening for their services. The heavy gale of Monday made sad havoc with the tents and furniture.

—The season for lake Pinafores is fast declining, as the cooler evenings and the cricket songs attest.

—The Old South in its new covering of paint looks as fresh as a daisy and as nice as a new pin.

—A wealthy Colorado and New Mexico landholder is about to erect a dwelling near New Haven, which will require three years for its construction.

—The United States Government has made a demand on the British Government, through Minister Welsh, for $103,000 for the Fortune Bay outrages.

—A railroad is to be built from Nantucket to Siconsit, at a cost of some twenty-five thousand dollars.

—The Mexican revolutionists at Vera Cruz have been suppressed by President Diaz.

—A Detroit clergyman was killed the other day by the careless handling of a revolver by a young man in his company.

—Wm. O. Mosely, Jr., a young and promising physician of this city, was killed by a descent of the Matterhorn. He went over a precipice and fell on a glacier, on which his stripped body could be distinctly seen from below.

—M. M. Lesseps does not feel at all encouraged with his Darian Canal scheme, and announces his intention to come to this country.

—It was the mother of Nellie Grant's husband, Mrs. E. F. Sartoris, whose death was the occasion of the report that the ex-President's daughter had suddenly deceased.

—The membership of the Odd Fellows' organization in Ma ne numbers 2,828.

—The Zulu war in South Africa was ended with the battle of Ulundi, if the opinion of the London Times is to be taken.

—The government revenue from quinine has for some time been so inconsiderable that the abolition of the duty makes no appreciable loss to customs.

—Memphis has been pronounced thoroughly infected with Yellow Fever, and the only remaining safety consists in depopulation, which is now rapidly progressing.

—Still another fall has occurerd among the treasurers at Fall River, that of Walter Paine, a citizen between fifty and sixty years old, and the treasurer of the American Linen Company. The loss is believed to be nearer two hundred thousand dollars than one hundred thousand.

—A British steamer, the Semiramis, that sailed from this port for Liverpool on the 29th of July, has been lost at sea with collision with another steamer. She carried only freight.

—The little kingdom of Denmark was last week ravaged by a terrible thunder-storm, that destroyed farm-houses by the score, and totally ruined crops.

—It is about time for the catarrh and hay fever convention to hold its annual meeting at the White Mountains.

—The ice-dealers in Hartford, Conn., discover that they are overstocked, and will have to carry forward a considerable supply.

—Bicycles have been ordered off the principle streets in New York. They are the terror of horses.

—North Adams rejoices over the fact that in five years pass labor has not at any time been so generally employed as now, and at such comparatively high wages.

—Although the house in which the Pocasset tragedy occurred has been closed since that shocking event, it has been forcibly entered by large numbers of insanely curious people, charitably called silly, and portions of the building have been carried off.

—The paper manufacturing business in Western Massachusetts is reported to be much more active than it was last summer, and fewer mills are shut down at this time than for many years.

—The Pacific Mills at Lawrence employ between ten and fifteen thousand persons, at a cost of ten dollars per minute, the cost of supplies for keeping the machinery running being twenty dollars per minute.

—Russia is believed in well informed diplomatic circles abroad to have formed an alliance with Persia, which certainly has something to do with England in India.

—The American Consul at Manchester, Eng., reports a gloomy condition of affairs there for business and manufacturers.

—Count Andrassy having resigned as prime minister in the Austro-Hungarian government, great difficulty will be encountered in finding his successor; and upon the choice will depend the answer to the question whether the Hungarians will continue their loyal devotion to the existing dynasty.

—The Greek boundary question presents a serious issue, Turkey having a sufficient military force already gathered to overcome Greece in case of an outbreak.

—Gold is coming over from England in payment for the grain and provisions which we export so largely to Liverpool.

—The camping-out contagion has visibly broken out this season all round the shores of Lake Champlain.

—All the callings and classes are holding their summer conventions at Saratoga, and the gatherings about the springs in the mornings are styled constitutional convestions.

—There is a lady in Saratoga who dresses altogether in lace. She is supposed be the daughter of a Brussels lace-manufacturer.

—Stock speculation in Wall Street last week reached a degree that was called intense.

—The wool-market in Boston has been very active of late, large numbers of buyers having been collected in the market.

—The iron interest of the country is immensely revived, owing to the rapid increase in the construction of railroads.

—In 1825, there were in New England one bishop, three priests, and seven small churches or chapels.

—Last week on Wednesday there were eleven hundred emigrants freshly arrived in New York. The number is steadily increasing.

Co-operative Stores in England.—Talking of competition, writes a Dublin correspondent, the shop-keepers of this more or less United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland are wrestling with a very formidable kind of competition hitherto unknown in these parts. This competition comes not across the seas, but from the drawing-rooms of the aristocracy and from the government bureaus. It is championed by peers of the realm, by titled ladies, by members of Parliament, by officers of the army and navy, and by high officers of the crown. In Dublin and in London, the stores of the "Official Co-operative Societies" are now in full swing, and are doing a flourishing trade in a most comprehensive line of business, from an needle to an anchor, at prices to ready-money purchasers, who are shareholders or subscribers, very much under those of the ordinary shop-keeper.

While experimenters in the Northern and Middle States are trying to find out which kind of millet is the best as a forage plant, a new candidate for their adoption has come from Guatemala in South America and been introduced into France. It is described as being somewhat like our Indian corn but with much longer leaves. It grows very quickly, is greatly relished by cattle and the yield is immense. It is to be presumed that Mr. Le Duc, our United States Commissioner of Agriculture, will see to it that the farmers in America may have an opportunity next year of testing the merits of this wonderful plant.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

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Albert A. Lovell of Worcester.
Winslow S. Lincoln of Worcester.
Benjamin A. Jourdan of Upton.

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Charles H. Doe,
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Superintendent of Horse Department.
JOSEPH P. EATON.

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OBADIAH B. HADWEN.

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HIS OCCUPATION GONE.

Had the Arkansas "doctor" that "tapped" the fat man, thinking he had dropsy, but finding no water pronounced it "dry dropsy," lived to-day, he would, like Othello, find "his occupation gone," for Allan's Anti-Fat, a purely vegetable remedy, safely but positely, reduces corpulency from three to six pounds per week. Sold by druggists.

NO GOOD PREACHING.

No man can do a good job of work, preach a good sermon, try a law suit well, doctor a patient, or write a good article, when he feels miserable and dull, with sluggish brain and unsteady nerves; and none should make the attempt in such a condition, when it can be so easily and cheaply removed by a little Hop Bitters. See other column.

STATE AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

The following State Fairs and other important shows are announced for the autumn of 1879:

New England, Worcester, Mass

Directory Column.

PROMINENT BUSINESS HOUSES IN BOSTON.

The Business Houses appearing under the several classifications in this column are among the best and most reliable in the city.

AUCTIONEERS.
SULLIVAN & MACDONALD, 9 School
J. WINNETT & CO., 5 Tremont St.

AWNINGS, TENTS & FLAGS
Chandler & Goldthwait, 14 N Market St.

ACCOUNT BOOK MANUFACTURERS.
AARON H. GAY & CO., 130 State St.
WARD & GAY, 180 Devonshire St.
P. S. TOBEY, 45 Milk St.
Winkley, Thorp & Dresser, 117 Devonshire.
F. W. BARRY, 108 Wash. St. (Cor. Elm.)

APOTHECARIES
B. F. BRADBURY, 343 Washington St.

ARTISTS' MATERIALS.
Wadsworth Br's & Howland, 76 Wash'n St.

BEEF, Etc.
W. J. COPELAND, 70 & 72 F. H. Market.
C. DANA & CO., (wholesale) 32 N. Market St.
D. D. ROGERS, (wholesale) 46 N. Market.
SKINNER & ARNOLD, 28 Fan Hall Sq.

BEEF AND PORK.
HOLDEN & GLIDDEN, 40 F. H. Market

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.
KELLUM & PERRICE, 31 N. Market St.
MOSES YES & CO., 26 Blackstone St.
HILTON BROS. & CO., Cellar, 3 F. H. Mt.
C. CAVERLY & CO., 2 T Faneuil Hall Sq.

BUTTER, EGGS AND POULTRY.
J. F. Hutchinson & Co., 177 & 179 So. Market.

BOOTS AND SHOES.
A. J. MOSES, 43 Tremont Street.
EDW. P. WHITE, 23 Tremont Row.
S. LAMKIN, 9 Tremont Row.

BAGS AND TRUNKS.
J. L. TYLER, 26 Avon St.

COFFEE AND TEA.
LONDON TEA CO., 801 Washington St.
ASHDOWN E. & CO., 25 Union St.

CARPETINGS.
J. & J. DOBSON, 323 Washington St.

COMMISSION PRODUCE.
SAYRE & CONDEN, 138 Blackstone St.
JOHN A. WOODD & CO., 100 S. Market

CROCKERY, CHINA AND GLASS.
NICKERSON & MILLER, 22 Merch. Row.
NICHOLSON, HUNT & CO., 132 Milk St.

DRY GOODS.
Hogg, Brown & Taylor, 477 & 481 Wash'n St.
R. & J. GILCHRIST, 5 & 7 Winter St.

DYE HOUSES.
WALDEN DYE HOUSE, 8 Hanover St.

DRY & PICKLED SALT FISH.
FRANKLIN SNOW & CO., 126 Atlantic Avenue. (Central Wharf.)

ENGRAVINGS CHROMOS, Etc.
CHAS. E. MEYER & CO., 64 Wash. St.

FERTILIZERS.
BOWKER FERTILIZER CO., 43 Chatham St.
MAPLE LEAF FERTILIZER CO., 13 Doane St.
H. B. ARNOLD & CO., 39 Blackstone St.
PACIFIC GUANO CO., Fremont St. Building
(Cor. Sudbury and Causeway Sts.)

FRUITS, VEGETABLES and CANNED GOODS
WINN, RICKER & CO., 95 F. H. Mk't.
WHITMAN & SMITH, 99 F. H. Mk't.
SIMMONS & HOWARD, 85 F. H. Mk't.
DAVIS, CLAPP & CO., 83 F. H. Mk't.

FRUIT AND PRODUCE.
W. W. & C. H. SOYES, 13 N. Market St.
B. P. HODSDON & CO., 11 N. Market St.

FISH.
WALKER & RICH, 113 F. H. Market.
SHATTUCK & JOYES, 128 F. H. Market
F. H. JOHNSON & CO., 131 F. H. Market
E. A. RICH & CO., 104 Atlantic Ave.

FLORAL ARTISTS.
C. H. HOVEY & CO., 32 Tremont Street.
DEE & DOYLE, 52 Tremont Street.
C. F. GRIMMER, 51 West St.

FARM HARNESSES.
J. J. KENNEDY, 206 Devonshire St.

FURNITURE AND CARPETS.
F. D. OSGOOD, Masonic Temple.
W. H. HERVEY & CO., 5 Union St.
Brooks & Walbridge Bros., 151 Hanover St.

FINE POCKET BOOKS.
E. M. TERRINGTON, 100 Wash. St.

FISHING TACKLE, GUNS, POWDER, &c.
J. & T. THOMBRIDGE & CO., 67 & 69 Sudbury St.

GUNS, RIFLES AND REVOLVERS.
J. P. LOVELL & SONS, 147 Wash. St.

GAS FIXTURES, LAMPS, CHANDELIERS, Etc.
N. W. TURVER & CO., 27 & 29 Bromfield St.

HARDWARE DEALERS.
BURDETT & WILLIAMS, 20 Dock Sq.
W. A. MARTIN, 6 Dock Square.
HOGWAN & VINAL, 7 Dock Square.
E. B. STODDARD, 180 Washington St.

HARDWARE AND TOOLS.
A. J. Wilkinson & Co., 184 to 188 Wash'n St.

HEADQUARTERS FOR NOVELTIES AND AGENTS' GOODS.
N. D. Downing & Co., 32 Bilby St.

KEROSENE CHANDELIERS, LAMPS.
C. H. McKENNEY & CO., 634 Wash. St.

PRESCOTT ORGANS.
O. A. GAWAGE, 367 Washington St.

PORK, Etc.
J. P. SQUIRE & CO., 23 F. H. Market.
CHAS. H. NORTH & CO., 27 F. H. Mk't.
JOHN A. NORTH & SON, 31 F. H. Market.
Highland, Lockwood & Co., 34 F. H. Market.

POULTRY.
NATHAN ROBBINS, 33 F. H. Market.
SWAN & NEWTON, 14 F. H. Market

PICTURES AND PICTURE FRAMES
Boston Frame & Chromo Co., 20 Chauncy st.
CHAS. E. MEYER & CO., 64 Wash. St.
E. P. HASKELL, 69 Cornhill.

PAPER AND TWINE
STIMPSON & CO., 63 Chatham St.
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Wadsworth Bros. & Howland, 76 Wash'n.
J. H. BAKER, 24 India Street.

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CHICKERING & SONS, 156 Tremont.
CHAS. D. BLAKE & CO., 616 Wash. St.
O. A. GAWAGE, 367 Washington St.
GUILD, CHURCH & CO., 682 Wash. St.
H. W. BERRY, (Kranich & Bach,) 597 Washington St. (Cor. Boylston St.)
WOODWARD & BROWN, 592 Wash'n

KNABE PIANOS.
E. W. TYLER, 13 Hotel & 306 Washington St

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Reading Rooms, Library, Study, Gymnasium, Ladies' Parlor and Office Rooms, 18 Boylston St.

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A. ROBINSON, 72 Causeway St.

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FRANK B. INGALLS, 27 Milk St.
JOSIE'S RESTAURANT, 4 N. Market St.
BURGIN, PARKS & CO., 30 No. Market.
PAIL & SAUDY'S, 42 Nor. Market St.
T. F. DINING ROOMS, 2 & 4 Sudbury.
CRAWFORD HOUSE, 9, 11 & 13 Brattle St.
(Up Stairs.)
E. G. PARR, 123 Causeway St.
MESSENGERS, 33 Bromfield St.
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Brooks & Walbridge Bros., 151 Hanover St.

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Stockings for Varicose Veins, Hearing Trumpets and Apparatus, Milking Tubes and Instruments for Cattle.
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The only absolutely safe machine in the market.
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W. G. BAKER & CO., 23 Bromfield St.

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POORE, TOWNE & CO., 29 India St.
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GOULD & CO., 69 Union St.

BE WISE AND HAPPY.

If you will stop all your extravagant and wrong notions in doctoring yourself and families with expensive doctors or humbug cure-alls, that do harm always, and use only nature's simple remedies for all your ailments—you will be wise, well and happy, and save great expense. The greatest remedy for this, the great, wise and good will tell you, is Hop Bitters—rely on it. See another column.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SCALE OF POINTS OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE YEAR 1879.

As established by the New York State Agricultural Society, 1853.

POINTS IN A SHORTHORN COW.

Pedigree—Should show unbroken descent on both sides, from known animals derived from English Herds, as found in the English or American Herd Books, *and without this an animal cannot compete in this class.*

Head—Small, lean and bony, tapering to the muzzle.....3

Face—Somewhat long, the fleshy portion of the nose of a light, delicate color.....2

Eye—Prominent, bright and clear; "prominent," from an accumulation of adipose substance in the socket, indicating a tendency to lay on fat; "bright," as an evidence of good disposition; "clear," as a guarantee of good health.....2

Horns and Ears—The horns should be light in substance, waxy in color, and symmetrically set on the head. The ears should be large, thin and with considerable action.....1

Neck—Rather short than long, tapering to the head; clean in the throat, and full at its base, thus covering and filling out the points to the shoulders.....2

Chest—Broad from point to point of the shoulders, deep from the anterior dorsal vertebra to the floor of the sternum, and both round and full just back of the elbows, or, in other words, "thick through the heart".....14

Brisket—Deep and projecting, indicating a disposition to lay on fat.....5

Shoulder—Where weight, as in the Shorthorn, is an object, should be somewhat upright and of a good width at the points, with the blade bone just sufficiently curved to blend its upper portion smoothly with the crops.....4

Crops—Must be full and level with the shoulders and back.....8

Back, Loin and Hips—Should be broad and wide, forming a straight and even line from the neck to the setting on of the tail, the hips or hocks round and well covered.....8

Rumps—Laid up high, with plenty of flesh on their extremities.....5

Pelvis—Should be large, indicated by the width of the hips (as already mentioned), and the breadth of the twist.....4

The Twist—Should be so well filled out in its "seam" as to form an even and wide plain between the thighs.....3

The Quarters—Long, straight, and well developed downward.....3

The Carcass—Round; the ribs nearly circular, and extending well back.....4

The Flanks—Deep, wide, and full in proportion to condition.....3

The Leg—Short, straight, and standing square with the body.....2

The Plates—Of the belly strong, and thus preserving nearly a straight underline.....3

The Udder—Should be pliable, and thin in its texture, reaching well forward, roomy behind, teats wide apart, and of convenient size.....3

The Tail—Flat and broad at its root, but fine in its cord, and placed *high up* and on a level with the rump.....2

The Coat—Should be thick, short and mossy, with longer hair in winter; fine, soft and glossy in summer.....2

Carriage—Of an animal gives style and beauty; the neck should be square; the step quick, and the head up.....2

Quality—On this the thriftiness, the feeding properties, and the value of the animal depends; and upon this the handling quality rests in a good measure, the grazier's and butcher's judgment. If the "touch" be good, some deficiency of form may be excused; but, if it be hard and stiff, nothing can compensate for so unpromising a feature. In raising the skin from the body, between the thumb and finger it should have a soft, flexible and substantial feel; and, when beneath the outspread hand, it should move easily with it and under it, as though resting on a soft elastic, cellular substance, which, however, becomes firmer as the animal ripens. A thin, papery skin is objectionable, more especially in a cold climate.....15

100

POINTS OF THE SHORTHORN BULL.

Most of the points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but, of course, should be more masculine in their character as indispensable from a strong, vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible, but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

In contradistinction to the cow, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger; that it may receive and sustain the horn; and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin attached to, and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the gullet and throat clean and free from dewlap. The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*; for it is an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loins long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide, and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

POINTS IN A HEREFORD COW.

[Purity of blood, as traced back to the satisfaction of committees, to imported stood on both sides from known English Breeder, or as found in Eyton's Hereford Herds Book, or Herd Book of the American Stock Breeders' Association.]

Head—Moderately small, with a good width of forehead, tapering to the muzzle, the cheek bone rather deep, but clean in the jaw.....3

Nose—Light in its color, and the head free from fleshiness.....2

Eye—Full, mild and cheerful in expression..2

Ears—Of medium size.....1

Horns—Light and tapering, long and spreading, with an outward and upward turn, giving a gay and lofty expression in the whole head.....2

Neck—Of medium length, full in its junction with the shoulders; spreading well over the shoulder points, and tapering finely to the head.2

Chest—Broad, round and deep; its floor running well back of the elbows, which, with a springing fore rib, gives great interior capacity to this all important portion of the body.....14

Brisket—When in flesh, largely developed, descending low between the legs, and deep, by covering the anterior portion of the sternum, or breast bone, but never interfering with the action of the animal when in working condition.....14

Shoulder—Lying snugly and closely in toward the top, and spreading toward the points, the blade sloping somewhat back, and running well up into the withers, which by rising a very trifle above the level line on the back, gives to the ox a very upstanding and beautiful fore end. The whole shoulder well clothed with muscle...6

Crops—Filling all up evenly behind the shoulders, and blending them smoothly in with the muscles of the back.....3

Back—Loin and hips should be broad, wide and level.....5

Rumps—Should lie nearly or quite level with the back, and their covering should be abundant, mellow, loose and freely moving under the hand, thus showing great aptitude to fatten.....4

Pelvis—Roomy, indicated by wide hips (as already mentioned), and the space between the rumps, which should stand well apart, giving a general breadth to the posterior portions of the animal.....3

Twist—Broad and full, extending well down on each side of the thigh, with corresponding width; a broad twist is a good indication of a butcher's animal.....5

Hind Quarters—Long, thoroughly developed in their upper and more valuable portions, as beef. The thigh gradually tapering to the hock, but muscular.....6

Carcass—Round throughout, full and capacious, with the under line of the belly level or nearly so.....3

Flank—Full and wide.....3

Legs—Straight, upright, firmly placed to support the superincumbent weight; a strong hock-joint, but by no means a large, coarse cannon-bone.....3

Plates—Of the belly, strong, and thus preserving nearly a straight under line.....2

Udder—Broad, full, extending forward and well up behind. Teats of fair size, squarely placed, with a slightly oblique pointing out, with veins large and swelling.....3

Tail—Large and full at its point of attachment, but fine in its cord.....2

Hair—Thick, close and furry; and, if accompanied with a long growth, and disposed to curl moderately, is more in estimation; but that which has a harsh and wiry feel is objectionable.....3

Color—Red or rich brown, oftentimes very dark, with a white or brockled face, are the best colors most fancied, though there are gray and also cream colored Herefords.....1

Carriage—Prompt, resolute and cheerful, and in the ox gay and lively.....3

Quality—On this the thriftiness, the feeding properties, and the value of an animal depend; and upon the touch of this quality rests, in a good measure, the grazier's and the butcher's judgment. If the "touch" be good, some deficiency of form may be excused; but, if it be hard and stiff, nothing can compensate for so unpromising a feature. In raising the skin from the body, between the thumb and finger, it should have a soft flexible and substantial feel; and, when beneath the outspread hand, it should move easily with it and under it, as though resting on a soft, elastic, cellular substance, which, however, becomes firmer as the animal "ripens." A thin, papery skin is objectionable, more especially in a cold climate.....15

100

POINTS OF THE HEREFORD BULL.

The points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but must be, of course, attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong and vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible; but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

In contradistinction to the cow, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger; that it may receive and sustain the horn; and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin attached to, and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the gullet and throat clean and free from dewlap. The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*; for it is an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loins long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

POINTS IN THE JERSEY COW.

[As established by the Jersey Agricultural Society.]

Purity of Breed—On both parent's side required for producing rich, yellow butter.....4

Head—Small, fine and tapering; eye full and lively; face lean and of a sucky color; *muzzle fine and encircled with white*; horns polished, a little crumpled, tipped with black; ear small and of an orange color within.....5

Back—Straight from the withers to the setting of the tail; chest deep and nearly on a line with the belly.....4

Hide—Thin, movable, but not too loose, well covered with soft hair of good color 2

Barrel—Hooped and deep, well ribbed home (having but little space between the ribs and hips); tail fine, hanging two inches below the hock.....4

Legs—Fore legs straight and fine; thighs full and long, close together when viewed from behind; hind legs short, the bones rather fine, hocks small, hind legs not to cross in walking.2

Udder—Full, well up behind; teats large and squarely placed, being wide apart, with veins large and swelling.....4

Growth.....1

General Appearance.....2

31

Perfection for cows and heifers.

POINTS OF THE JERSEY BULL.

The points desirable in the female are generally so with the male, but must, of course, be attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong and vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible; but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

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FERTILIZERS FOR HOUSE PLANTS.

[American Agriculturist.]

When the plant is in a bad condition, it is a mistake to apply a stimulating fertilizer. The causes of ill-health are many, but the most general one with those who have had no experience in the care of plants is over-watering. Plants, to live, must have water, therefore the more water the better, seems to be the reasoning, and the consequence is starved, nearly lifeless sticks in a pot of mud. In the majority of cases withholding the water is one of the things needed, and with invalids a stimulating fertilizer is the one thing of all others not needed. When plants are in a flourishing condition and making growth, then fertilizers may be useful, especially if the soil in the pots was originally rather poor. Any of the fertilisers used in the garden would answer for plants in the house, were it not necessary to avoid unpleasant odors, and to consult neatness and ease of application. For hard-wooded, slow-growing plants, very fine bone flour of bone—sold by seedsmen for the purpose, is perhaps the best; a few table-spoonsfuls being forked into the soil of the pot. For soft-wooded, quick growers, a liquid fertilizer must be used. This may be guano, a tablespoonful to a gallon of water; soot two tablespoonfuls to a gallon, or the water of ammonia (liquid hartshorn) of the drug stores, an ounce to the gallon. Water the plants with either of these, instead of clear water, once or twice a week, as the condition of the plant requires. No invariable rule can be given.

NINE GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

The St. Lawrence Board of Trade of Governeur, N. Y., appointed a committee to embody in a brief address such hints to the dairymen of that section that experience in the purchase and sale of dairy products suggested to producers. In the report of this committee the following points were given prominence:

First—That each patron give especial care to his milk pails and cans, see that they are thoroughly cleansed and scalded; and never draw whey at night. If possible, have some other vessel in which to draw whey, and thus prevent using your milk can.

Second—Thoroughly brush and clean your cow's bag and teats before milking, to prevent loose particles falling into the pails, and wash the bags if necessary to get them perfectly clean. Never neglect to strain your milk; never allow your milkers to wet the cow's teats with the milk, for the purpose of cleaning or softening them. Instantly discharge any hired help that persist in this most filthy habit, and if you or your family are offenders in this respect, institute a reform at once.

Third—Don't allow your cows to be worried by dogs in driving, and if it sometimes happens that they have been excited or heated, let such cows stand till the very last, to cool off and recover from their fright, before milking.

Fourth—Should a cow be ailing, chilled, or not just right, strain her milk always into the swill barrel, for it is far better to lose a few pounds of milk than endanger a whole vat of cheese.

Fifth—Do everything you can to secure good sweet, pure, wholesome milk. Then insist upon the utmost care in the cheese maker, who should carefully inspect, and if need be, reject all milk that is not up to this high standard.

Sixth—Don't allow to remain unburied in your pasture, or about your barns—carrion.

Seventh—Secure for your cattle good, pure, fresh water, and never allow your cows to drink unwholesome or stagnant water.

Eighth—Provide good nutritious food, and plenty of it, for cattle. The best farmers recommend salting cows every morning in small quantities.

Ninth—Cool and air the milk as soon as drawn from the cow. Never leave your cows in the barn while milking or over night. It will most invariably taint the milk. Never put the cover on your cans until you are ready to go to the factory.

New Advertisements.

I SHALL SHOW

AT THE

NEW ENGLAND FAIR,

AT WORCESTER, MASS.,

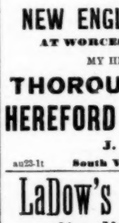
MY HERD OF

THOROUGHBRED HEREFORD CATTLE.

J. S. HAWES,

au23-1t South Vassalboro', Maine.

LaDow's Harrow,



FOR FALL SEEDING.

LaDow's Jointed Pulverizing Harrow is admitted to be the best Wheel Harrow ever made. For Fall Seeding and other purposes it is invaluable. Saves time and increases crops. Thousands in use giving the best satisfaction.

EVERETT & SMALL,

43 SOUTH MARKET ST., BOSTON,

Sole Manufacturers for the New England States.
WHEELER & MELICK CO., Albany, N. Y., manufacturers for the United States except New England.
au23-cow3t

Wanted.

To place a youth of respectable family (English) with a good New England farmer, where services will be equivalent to board—is fond of farm work and has had considerable experience. References exchanged. Address J. S., care of Charles Rose, New Springville, Staten Island, N. Y.
aug23-1t

$6 FOR 53c.

To every reader of this paper, young or old, we offer, under a very liberal arrangement with a large jewelry manufacturing house, the MOST VALUABLE box of goods ever offered to the public. For 53 cents we send the box by mail, postage paid, and GUARANTEE it will be worth $6 to the purchaser.

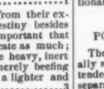
WEDDING JEWELRY CASKET, by mail, containing

1 Fine Gold-Plated Solitaire Cocktail Stud,	$1.00
1 Fine Gold-Plated Collar-Button,	.50
1 Fine Gold-Plated Watch-Chain,	1.00
1 Expert Rose Scarf-Pin,	.50
1 Pair Elegant Gold Roman Sleeve-Buttons,	1.00
1 Very Fine Gent's Dress Gold Ring,	1.00
Grand Total,	$5.00

The six pieces of Jewelry are of new and elegant design, and cannot be bought separate for less than $6.00 in any city in America. The number of CASKETS to be sent out under this arrangement is limited; hence this offer is good for sixty days only, after which date positively no goods will be furnished at less than regular prices. Circular, containing full description sent to any Curious Gold knows; and as it wears like fine gold, it is worn by the most aristocratic people.

The Grecian Gold Ring is a rare imitation of a $25 eighteen carat gold engagement ring. This ring may be sold for $5 or $6, if you want something that will sell to everybody you show it to, or for your own use, and for this Wedding Jewelry Casket, and then judge for yourself of its value. It is a beautiful present for a lady or gentleman, and when worn is the envy of all persons. This is a GENUINE OFFER made by a responsible house, and a SAMPLE REMAINS, and should not be missed by any. Send only once. Send currency, silver, or one cent postage-stamps.

Address, **Crystal Palace Manufacturing Co., South Weymouth, Mass.**
au23-1t*



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60 Cards—20 Chromo, 10 Motto, 30 Ocean Shell, Snowflake, &c. Name on, 10c. Clinton Bros., Clintonville, Ct. sep14

SALESMEN WANTED $125 A Month and Expenses selling to Dealers CIGARS SAMPLES FREE. VIRGINIA

Send 3c. STAMP to insure answer. S. FOSTER & Co. Cincinnati, O. feb23-cow1s

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Hamlin's Patent Rubber Bucket Pump.

This is a combination of the common Suction and Chain Pumps; it throws a constant stream of water; it purifies the water by keeping it in motion; the wear of the Bucket is replaced by its self-expansion. Guaranteed for any depth of well.

WHITTEMORE BROS.,
128 & 130 So. Market St., Boston.
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ECLIPSE WIND MILL,

FIRST self-regulating solid wheel Mill invented. Tested twelve years. 6,000 in use. Victorious at all the World's Fairs. Warranted not to blow down. Used in every State in the Union. Export returns show more ECLIPSE WIND MILLS sent abroad than all other Wind Mills combined. Used exclusively by 44 different leading Railroads. All needing power for Force Pumping, Irrigation, Drainage, Water Supply, or Grinding Grain, please apply for circular and price.

40 Oliver Street, Boston,

where a Mill can be seen in operation.
sept7 L. H. WHEELER.

OUR IMPROVED PEST POISON is a SAFE, sure and cheap destroyer of the POTATO BUG.

Current Worm, and all insects that Prey on Vegetation. Warranted to kill FIVE times where Paris Green kills one, yet it is SAFER to use, and is not injurious to plants. Costing 25c. per acre, 1-lb box sent free by mail for 30c. Send for circular. POSTAGE STAMPS ACCEPTED. Discount to the trade. Kearney Chemical Works, J. R. DEY, Agent, P. O. Box 2139,—Office, 114 Nassau St., New York.

☞ J. R. DEY, Esq., Agt.—"In making my order to-day for 1878, I am pleased to be able to say that I used the Pest Poison last year on my Potato tops (Currant and Gooseberry Bushes, and it did THEM EFFECTUALLY OF THE PEST, AND AT A LESS EXPENSE FOR MATERIAL AND LABOR THAN ANY PREPARATION I HAVE EVER USED, and I think my Currant and Gooseberry bushes would reach TWO MILES if in a single row. Yours, &c., E. WARE BULLENTER, Proprietor of Lyons' Nurseries, Wayne Co., N. Y. May 7th, 1878.

my24-tf

Established 1843.

WOODWARD & BROWN.

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F. D. OSGOOD, Auctioneer,

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Paper Hangings and Decorations every TUESDAY. Furniture, Carpets, Refrigerators, &c., WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, each day at 10, and at private sale all the time, at about one-half the regular price; best Roxbury and other tapestry, &c.; wardrobe and top chamber sets, $28; refrigerators, $25.50; and other goods equally low; we have a full assortment of furniture; 2000 new styles paper hangings, &c.; roll &c. &c.
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PYLE'S DIETETIC SALERATUS

Estb 1855

PUREST-BEST-CHEAPEST SOLD BY ALL GROCERS IN PACKAGES. MANUFACTURED BY JAMES PYLE, NEW YORK.

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STRAWBERRY PLANTS!

50 varieties.

Newest, largest, best, most productive. In pots or layers. *At bottom prices.* Plant now. Full crop next year. Circulars *free.* Address G. H. & J. H. HALE, South Glastonbury, Conn.
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SEED DRILL.

EVERY GARDENER should have the ARLING-TON SEED DRILL, made by SAMUEL C. BUCKMAN, of Arlington, Mass. Price Twenty dollars.

This Grater is first-class in every respect; has iron cylinder, iron frame, and adjustable concaves, and is not surpassed for quantity or quality of work.

PRICE REDUCED TO $40.

For Catalogue of Cider machinery and other information valuable to Cider-makers, address
BOOMER & BOSCHERT PRESS CO.,
Syracuse, N. Y.
my3 cow12t

WELL-AUGER. Ours is guaranteed to be the best in the world. Catalogue free.
W. W. GILES, 149 Clark St., Chicago, Illinois. aug2-cow6t

PUMPS.

THE BEST IN THE MARKET.

Iron, Copper, Brass and Wood.

My improved

FORCE PUMP

For Houses, Stables and Greenhouses, is superior to any other.

LAWN SPRINKLERS, HOSE, IRON PIPE, HOSE PIPES, and HYDRAULIC RAMS.

H. M. WISWALL,
82 Water Street, Boston.
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GET THE BEST THE BLANCHARD CHURN SOLD EVERYWHERE

Perfect stock, best work, very efficient and durable. Nine sizes made, churning from one to 100 gallons. Warranted to be exactly as represented. Sold by all dealers in REALLY first class Farm Tools.
PORTER BLANCHARD'S SONS, CONCORD, N. H. Sole Manufacturers. Send for Circulars.
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DAIRY & TABLE SALT.

IF you want the best Salt, ask your grocer for WARNER & FREEMAN'S Double Refined Dairy and Table Salt.

If he don't keep it, it is probably because he buys a cheaper Salt without any regard to quality. Our Salt is the best in this country, and never fails to give satisfaction.

214 State & 37 Commerce Sts.,
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FOWLE'S PILE AND HUMOR CURE

One bottle warranted a perfect cure for all kinds of PILES. *Two to four in the worst cases of* LEPROSY, SCROFULA, SALT RHEUM, RHEUMATISM, KIDNEYS, DYSPEPSIA, CANCER, CATARRH *and all diseases of the* SKIN *and* BLOOD. Entirely Vegetable. Internal and external use. In cases of failure dealers please return the money and charge it back to me. Send for Pamphlet. M. B. FOWLE, Boston. Price $1 a bottle.
my24-cow13t

TRUTH IS MIGHTY!

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MODEL HERD OF

The Poet's Corner.

DESTINY.

1856.

Paris, from throats of iron, silver, brass,
Joy-thundering cannon, blent with chiming bells,
And martial strains, the full-voiced pæan swells.
The air is stirred with flags, the chanted mass
Throngs all the churches, yet the broad streets
swarm,
With glad-eyed groups who chatter, augh, and
pass:
In holiday confusion, class with class.
And over all the spring, the sun-floods warm!
In the Imperial palace that March morn,
The beautiful young mother lay and smil:d;
For by her side just breathed the Prince, her child,
Heir to an empire, to the purple born,
Crowned with the Titan's name that stirs the
heart
Like a blown clarion—one more Bonaparte.

1879.

Born to the purple, lying stark and dead,
Transfixed with poisoned arrows, 'neath the sun
Of brazen Africa! Thy grave is one,
Forefated youth (on whom were visited
Follies and sins not thine), whereat the world,
Heartless howe'er it be, will pause to sing
A dirge, to breathe a sigh, a wreath to fling
Of rosemary and rue with bay-leaves curled.
Enmeshed in toils ambitious, not thine own,
Immortal, loved boy-Prince, thou tak'st thy stand
With early doomed Don Carlos, hand in hand
With mild-browed Arthur, Geoffrey's murdered
son.
Louis the Dauphin lifts his thorn-ringed head,
And welcome thee, his brother, 'mongst the dead.
—*Emma Lazarus in September Scribner.*

Ladies' Department.

HOW THAT CUP SLIPPED.

[Harper's Monthly for September.]

"There's many a slip
'Twixt the cup and the lip."

In Chicago. But who would ever think of locating a romance in Chicago? and not only using that prosaic city, but selecting for its hero a quiet (except when in a "corner") coal merchant? My plea is this: romances locate themselves, and heroes are like murder—you never know when or where to prepare for them. So it was in Chicago that the cup was lifted, and quiet, bashful Mr. Strong, who knew far more about the different kinds of coal than he did about women whose unsteady hand let it fall.

Mr. Strong, at a date prior to the beginning of his romance, belonged to that army of middle-aged young men seldom visible to a lady save at the theatre, or occasionally on Madison Street, or going up the steps of some boarding house. At the theatre they troop by twos and threes to their reserved seats in all the jovous freedom of ungloved hands, listen to the play, unless perchance they are distracted by the sight of some former companion who is detected stealing guiltily in with a pretty smiling girl, upon whom he lavishes bonbons and attentions, and never once glances in the direction of his forsaken friends. They always hurry out between acts, not so much, I am convinced, for the sake of getting a drink, as to escape into the open air, and chuckle over the capture of Brown. Or (presuming my reader to be a lady) you are at another time indebted to one of this band for a seat in a crowded stage in erossing from one side of the city to the other. He cheerfully resigns his place, you are made comfortable, and he hangs on to a strap and bumps his expensive beaver against the stage roof. Or, as I said before, you may see him mounting the steps of his boarding house.

It was in the latter case that Miss Jessie Bloomer first saw Mr. Strong. She had arrived in Chicago one summer day by an afternoon train, had taken a warm bath and a refreshing nap, had tossed her waving brown hair into an artistic mass, robed herself in a pale blue muslin, the delicate shade of which brought out every rose and lily of her pretty dimpled face, and at last had floated airily down stairs, and was standing at one of the parlor windows just as Mr. Strong, fanning himself with an evening paper, put his foot upon the lower step of his boarding house. Some young fellows were lounging on the upper one, and a word from them caused him to look up. As he did so, the picture framed by the open window with its shadowy lace drapery was so dazzling that it caught his eyes at once, and he was overcome with embarrassment, and shuffled clumsely up, to the suppressed amusement of the fellows at the top, who remarked that "Strong seemed struck."

Now it may naturally be asked how Miss Bloomer came to invade the home of these commercial gentlemen. The answer is easily given. She was a young sister of Mrs. Jack Morin, who, with her husband, also boarded at No. 10. Now all the fellows in the house knew Mrs. Morin very well indeed, but then she was forty years old, had a double chin and easy manners, and it had not taken any courage to make her acquaintance. But it was a very different thing to have a dainty bud of a girl suddenly settle down in one of the rather worn easy-chairs of their parlor, and as she had come without warning, she was such a surprising apparition that she caused each one of the boarders to turn back from the parlor door, when he would have entered, and converse in unusually low tones on the front steps.

In the mean time Mr. Strong paused not to listen to the gibes of his companions but hurried up to his room to re-arrange his dusty garb; for he was late, and the fumes of the dinner was already mounting the basement stairs in an overheated manner, and mingling with the still warm air of the late afternoon.

When he re-appeared the scene had changed, and the household was assembled around the dining table. As he entered the dining-room, Gordon, the wit of the house, had, with Jenkins and Smith, the other boarders, been introduced, and was giving the new arrival a humorous catalogue of the sights which Chicago offered, and which she must make a point of seeing.

Miss Bloomer was thinking, just as Mr. Strong took his seat, that it must be very funny indeed to drive under a river instead of over it, and she was thinking, too, that a tunnel must be rather a frightful place, especially at night, which gave Gordon a chance to get off one of his *mots* (not altogether new to his fellow-boarders), to the effect that although it was a good place for lurking robbers, they could hardly be called *highwaymen*, at which Miss Bloomer laughed sweetly, with her big eyes as well as her pretty lips.

Somehow Mr. Strong felt irritated with Gordon and his old jokes, and when he in his turn had been introduced to the young lady, he chose to turn the conversation into a grave, even a gloomy channel. But fortunately gravity was restored by the timely entrance of belated Jack Morin, who greeted his charming sister-in-law in a boisterous and brotherly fashion, giving her a hearty kiss and hug when she sprang from her chair to meet him—a proceeding which was watched with envious eyes by the boarders, and when he pulled one of the long curls which hung in her neck, and told her that after himself she was the beauty of the family, every fork was silenced in rapt attention.

Not many days passed before Miss Jessie was adored by the four bachelors. Not one would have owned that he was doing more for her than he would cheerfully do for any lady visiting the city for the first time, when each vied with the other in making her visit agreeable. But, oh, Messrs. Gordon, Jenkins, and Smith, did you do as much for each, plain Miss Wyman when she, only twelve short months before, visited her cousin, your landlady, in this very house? Where then was this lavish display of hospitality on your part? Did she not broadly hint that she would like to go out to the "crib," and also see the interior of the shot-tower? And did she not say plainly that she was not afraid of horses, when you, Mr. Gordon, made a sham show of regret that your swift trotters were not safe for a lady to drive behind? And did not you, Mr. Jenkins, trump up a business visit to St. Louis rather than wait upon the ladies to the opera? And as for Smith, he ought to blush to his dying when he recalls the falsehood he concocted about the perils of a trip out to the crib. And when did you, Mr. Strong, ever lay aside your evening paper and banter Miss Wyman to beat you at a game of chess? Shame, shame upon you all; You know very well that you allowed that poor young lady to have a dismal visit in the city you are now making so lively for this rosy girl, with her bewitching smile and eyes.

But to resume my chronicle. For the first few evenings Mr. Strong was, to all outward seeming, true to his party, but a close observer might often have caught him looking over the top at the central figure of the group around the card table. Especially was he *distrait* when a light, happy laugh called him away from politics and current prices, and a pretty white hand reached out with a childish petulance after a lost "trick." And he gave up all semblance to reading when a girlish figure perched itself upon the piano stool, and waited patiently while that forward Jenkins tortured the strings of his violin, and prepared to squeak out a villainous accompaniment.

Then came an evening when he stood back of Miss Bloomer's chair and gave her some useful hints on euchre-playing, which were most gratefully received. After that he was often one of the four around the ever-present euchre table.

About this time a certain world-renowned prima donna began an engagement at M'Vicker's, and one evening Smith came home unusually early, and spent an unusually long time over his toilet. A little later, a gorgeous and expensive bouquet arrived, and was sent up to his room. At dinner, Miss Bloomer, always prettily dressed, had added several festive touches to her dress, which, taken with the symptoms in Smith's case, threw the other three bachelors into a high state of excitement, and they anxiously awaited further developments. They were not kept long in suspense, for soon after dinner a carriage drew up before the door, and the driver announced that he had called for Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith was notified, and was soon waiting, in rather a nervous manner, in the hall. Presently Miss Jessie Bloomer tripped lightly down stairs, wrapped in a fleecy opera cloak, and carrying the mysterious bouquet in her hand, and together the forsaken trio of bachelors gloomily watched Smith hand her into the carriage and drive away to the opera. They all resented what they felt to be shabby underhanded behavior on his part, and had they been Englishmen, they would have joined in voting him "a cad." But being merely good citizens of Chicago, they contented themselves with the remark that Smith was sometimes a little tricky on 'Change, which fact really had no bearing upon the case in hand, as his present behavior was certainly straightforward and above-board. He had asked Miss Bloomer that morning if he might have the pleasure of her company to the opera; she had readily accepted; and it had never once crossed his mind that it was a duty he owed to his fellow-boarders to acquaint them with his intentions. But it was tacitly agreed that Smith's conduct was such that it could not be overlooked nor meekly borne. If *he* could whisk Miss Bloomer away to the opera, why, so could *they*, and then and there each to himself vowed a vow, the carrying out of which rolled gold—or rather good greenbacks—into the coffers of that prima donna, and into the pockets of florists and hackmen, and never before did a little village maiden have such a feast of opera, or accumulate bouquets and librettos at such a rate. This opera business was but the beginning of her dissipations. There were drives out to Lincoln Park; Gordon's skittish beasts flew along the Boulevard with the brave little belle sitting beside their owner; an excursion was arranged offhand for herself, Mrs. Morin, and one of her admirers out to Hyde Park, when she was heard to express a wish to go there and gather fringed gentians; and as for bonbons, they filed up to her room in a perfect procession of costly satin, gilt, and inlaid boxes. So altogether Miss Bloomer was having, as she wrote to a friend at home, "a perfectly lovely time."

But in the natural course of events there came a time when she had to cease revolving in this round of gayety. One soft autumn evening, as she was driving beside Mr. Strong along the lake shore, there came a lull in the conversation, and they silently watched the full moon as it began to burnish the tranquil waters of Lake Michigan. The carriage rolled softly along, and the horses stepped evenly over the damp drive, and everything combined to enchance the quiet of the hour. Finally Miss Bloomer spoke, and there was a tone of regret in her voice which her statement scarcely seemed to warrant. She said:

"I had a letter from mamma to-day."

Mr. Strong was puzzled by the woe of her manner, but hoped her mamma was well.

"Yes, but you see she is quite well; but—"

"Your papa is not ill, I hope."

"No, papa is very well too; but—"

"Yes?"

"I have to go home."

"Go home! Oh no. Why, you've only just come."

"Oh, Mr. Strong, I've been here ten weeks next Saturday."

"Ten weeks! It doesn't seem that many days."

"And I've had such a perfectly lovely time. I only wish I *had* just come; then I'd still have my visit to make."

"But why need you go home? Write and ask your mother to let you stay all winter."

"It would be of no use; and what is worse, I don't expect ever to see dear, lovely Chicago again. You know Jack is going to live in St. Louis after this;" and there was the suggestion of a sob in Miss Jessie's voice as she finished her sentence.

Mr. Strong mused, and at last said, "That's too bad."

It was some time before either spoke again, and during the interval the gentleman was feeling sincere regret that the lively little girl was going away. He would probably never know another as well; indeed, he never would have known her if she had not walked right into his home, and, as it were, forced him to make her acquaintance. Never before had he asked a lady to drive with him or go to the opera, and although he had found it a pleasant experience, he had not the faintest idea that he would ever repeat it, for, as I hinted before, he was a bashful man, and he trembled at the thought of presenting himself before any lady through the usual avenues of society. The result of all this retrospection was merely a repetition of his first avowal, and that was too bad.

"Do you mean it is too bad for you, or for me?"

"Why, for—for me, of course." Mr. Strong had really up to that instant not known how much sympathies were on.

"Oh, now, Mr. Strong, don't tell fibs; you know you don't care in the least whether I go or stay; you'll forget that I ever existed after I am gone a month;" and the big eyes looked a merry reproach up into his.

"You are too hard upon a fellow, Miss Jessie—indeed you are;" and after Mr. Strong had commenced his protest it was easy to go on. Since Miss Jessie was not present, his engagement became so vague a thing that he was only half certain that he had not dreamed it that night in the sleeping-car. When he had started upon that eventful drive, no idea that he would return from it her promised husband had ever crossed his mind. Then, in less than two hours after, he had said a hurried farewell in the hall, had stolen a couple of kisses when they were out of range of the open parlor—wherein reigned an ominous silence—had promised to be back the moment business was over, and had taken his valise and rushed away to catch the night train going east. So after the many vain attempts I have noted the letter was given up, and he depended upon forgiveness, when he should reach Chicago, by eloquently and truthfully stating the case.

But a letter might have prevented all that followed. For if a letter had come, it is more than likely that in the course of time it would have been shown to Mrs. Morin, who would straightway have told her husband and father, and the engagement would have been talked about in the family. Indeed, Miss Jessie had depended upon the coming of a letter to divulge her secret to her sister. But when none came it was but human that indignation should settle down upon her heart, and silence upon her lips.

So she departed, leaving but a brief note, which was to give her neglectful lover her Minnesota address, "should he desire to make use of it."

This note called forth a prompt, awkward apology from the erring Strong, which was received and pardoned—both the conduct and letter—in a graceful and lengthy epistle from Miss Bloomer. Indeed, it was such a pretty letter that it inspired the recipient with a glow of pride in being able to claim the charming writer as his own. He carried it in his breast pocket, and read it many times, and on the following Sunday retired to his room immediately after breakfast, and wrestled with an answer during the greater part of the day. He began by informing her that her "favor of last Monday was received, and contents duly noted." Then he was glad to learn that she had reached home safely, and that she had found all well there; he was also glad that she had not mentioned their engagement to her sister before leaving Chicago, as the fellows would all have had their remarks to make, and it would be just as well to give them a good surprise one of these days; and should he write to her father? He supposed she knew the great news about Jack and Gordon going into a partnership and setting up in St. Louis the next week. He would try to get off some time near Christmas and visit her. In the mean time she would tell him what kind of a ring she would like. Business was beginning to hurry him, and she must not always wait to *answer* letters, but write to him often, and he remained respectfully hers, etc., etc.

As an ordinary letter it was a study, but as a love-letter not a success. Still, Miss Jessie understood his difficulties, read the most readable passages to her dear friend and confidante, and proceeded to make a long list of her future husband, and did as he desired about writing often.

Almost any reasonably good fellow can be idealized into a hero by simply setting himself upon a pedestal in the heart of an imaginative, affectionate young girl, and then leaving her. First of all he will be a hero because it is necessary for her to have one to worship; then he is hers, has given himself to her in preference to any of the thousand other men whom she has seen, and in fact alone has shown himself superior to the thousand other men whom she has seen. He may be a trifle dull in conversation, and more than a trifle dull in his letters, and withal somewhat neglectful of her; but then he is absorbed in the affairs of the world, and what would become of these same worldly affairs if he took no interest in them? so she cheerfully accepts him as he is, and stands a little in awe of him, because he understands matters into which she cannot enter. He may be rather taciturn, but in that case he has the veritable *grand seigneur* style, and is all the more admirable for it. Under any and all circumstances her common clay turns to finest marble, and she worships her idol, and commands all her friends to kneel before the shrine.

Now our slight acquaintance my readers have with Mr. Strong, I'm sure they will agree with me in the verdict that he was not of the stuff from which heroes are usually made. He was not built of very fine clay, nor of sounding brass; he was more—judging him impartially—like a basswood image than any thing in the idol line; but such as he was, Miss Jessie had not been parted from him a month before she had him enthroned, with incensable vapers ascending through the clouds of incense constantly burning before him.

How sad to think that he was so soon to cast himself down from that pedestal! Or did fate do the deed? I'm more than half inclined to think he was only a tool in the hands of inexorable destiny, for years after, when he told me the whole story, he came as near weeping as a Chicago coal merchant could. Our hero had his hands together, and turned about on the little finger of his left hand a diamond magnificent ring (which was bought for a much fairer hand): he groaned aloud, and swore that a greater blockhead than he never lived, and in every way showed the liveliest remorse. To justify him as much as possible with my readers, I'm going to let him finish the story for himself, and they will be convinced of his sincerity.

"I arrived at my business early so to get away for a couple of weeks about Christmas. I wrote her I was coming, but did not say just when, as I was so uncertain, I was going a little beyond her home, too, before I returned, to visit some of my mother's relatives. I wanted to see poor little Jessie very much; indeed I did; but I dreaded to meet the old folks, and all her girl friends, and parading myself before my lady fancy through the usual avenues of society. The result of all this retrospection was merely a going hunting in my uncle's neighborhood, I decided to go right on with him, make my visit there first, and then visit Jessie on my way back to Chicago. I thought I'd gather courage in the mean time to meet her folks.

"I found my friends very glad to see me, and the first week of my vacation slipped without my realizing it. Then I thought I'd send a line and fix a day for starting, but didn't get a chance to write that day; and the next, when I sat down and began, I found it rather awkward to tell her that I had come right past her station to see other friends first, so I concluded not to write, but just step in the next day when she wasn't expecting me. That very night a terrific snow-storm came, and there wasn't a train to be seen for forty-eight hours. The last one that went through brought me a letter from my partner in Chicago, urging me back as soon as possible, as we were likely to meet with a heavy loss. The letter decided me to take the first train that came, and get to Chicago as soon as possible. I fully intended to dispatch my business there, and the moment I could get away, to take three days and visit that poor girl. Of course I *couldn't* write and tell her how I'd been loafing within a hundred miles of her for nearly two weeks.

"When I got to Chicago I found affairs badly mixed up, and it was two weeks more before they were straightened. I was so harassed all that time that writing was quite out of the question with me. I never was much of a letter-writer anyway, and least of all in the line of friendly correspondence. But I had thought of my behavior every day, and I can assure you I didn't respect myself any the more for my convictions.

"The very night that my business was completed I received this letter from Miss Bloomer;" and he handed me a little missive from out his note-book. It ran thus:

"MR. STRONG,—After receiving your last letter, nearly a month ago, I expected you daily. But, I need scarcely say, now that I have learned *from a true friend* that you passed through Forestville *twice* last month, that I do not expect you *at all*.

"Your conduct has been very singular, to say the least, and I do not understand it. Do not, please, imagine that I am breaking my heart over the matter, for I am not. I only congratulate myself upon my happy escape from a man who has so little regard for his word.

"Trusting that your ways will be more straightforward in the future, *for your own good*,

"I am, respectfully, yours,
JESSIE BLOOMER."

"Pretty severe, isn't it?" he asked, as I finished. "But I deserved it."

"Yes, you deserved it," I replied, handing it back. "What did you do to clear yourself?"

"I wrote and told her the whole thing, but received my letter back, along with the others I had written, and a little slip of paper, upon which she merely said that a poor excuse was better than none, but I must pardon her if she declined to accept it."

"And did you ever learn how she found out about this unlucky trip?"

"Yes; it seems that White—the friend I met on the train—saw Morin in St. Louis, and told him about our jolly hunting party; Morin mentioned it to his wife, and she wrote it to Jessie."

"And you've never heard of her since?"

"Y-e-s, I—had a—that is, not a letter, but—her wedding cards, about six months after."

"Ah? Whom did she marry?"

"Gordon."

"Oh!"

THE CYNIC.—The *Athenæum* says: "When we call a man a cynic we mean that he is ill-conditioned and snarling, that he makes savage response to kind advances, that he refuses to believe good of anything or anybody, and that, though he is not necessarily malicious if let alone, it is his pleasure and his determination to be let alone. The cynic does no favors, and desires none."

☞ Grace Greenwood says that "among its other admirable manufactures, New England produces the best educated girls the truest wives, the noblest mothers, and the most glorious old maids in the world."

A NARROW STREET.

[Temple Bar.]

It was so narrow, this little back street in the quaint, old-fashioned German town, that Hans Gottlieb could, if he had so wished, have shaken hands out of his window with his opposite neighbor.

The sun that shone so bravely elsewhere was seldom visible here; only in the early morning a few golden beams found their way in, and gave faint encouragement to the two or three flowers that blossomed in pots on the window-sill.

On such occasions Hans would pause in his work, knowing full well what was coming—how the casement would be flung open, and a girl's voice, singing a blithe little French song, would ring across the silent street to his listening ear; how a slim, pretty figure would for a moment stand framed in the blossoming scarlet runner, a pretty figure, with dark French eyes, and black hair drawn up under a white cap—a beautiful contrast, so Hans thought, to his comely yellow-haired country women. As soon as this vision appeared, Hans would pause in his work and turn his eyes toward it; would wait till the watering of the flowers and the singing of the song were alike ended, and then would approach his window.

"Good morning," his neighbor would call across, in that pretty foreign German that was so enchanting in his ears—"Good morning, Monsieur Gottlieb!" and then, with a nod and a smile, the trim little figure would vanish into the dark shadows, and Hans would return to his work.

But though life was too busy with these two, and bread difficult enough to win, even when one worked hard for it, so that neither could afford to idle away the minutes in talk, yet Hans as he worked, dreaming of the days when stone-carving should not mean daily bread, but honor and glory to those he loved, was pleasantly conscious all the time of a dark head bent over a table drawn close up to the window opposite—a table covered with bright-colored scraps of muslin and paper—which, in due course, under those deft, small hands, became summer flowers; at this short distance seeming to the looker-on the spoils of a June garden.

Thus they worked day after day, these two, so near together, yet so far apart, abstaining from all conversation which might have made the days pass more quickly; but then, an hour's idleness might mean going supperless to bed, so that even Rose Cordier, dearly as she loved the sound of her own voice, refrained from making use of it, except for an occasional song. But when the day was over, when the coolness in the little close street, and the shadowy grey of the strip of sky overhead gave notice that the long summer day was drawing to an end, when the small room grew dark, then Rose would rise and open the door, to interchange greetings and gossip with the neighbors—with the women sitting on their doorsteps, knitting in the peaceful twilight, their children playing about them; with the fathers returning from their work; with the young men loitering about smoking; for Rose had always a bright word and look for every man, woman and child she knew.

And they were all fond of her—of this little foreigner who had come among them four years ago, with an old mother, since dead, and who earned her daily bread honestly among them.

Then, as it grew even darker, Hans Gottlieb would become aware that the day and its work was over, and would lay aside his chisel, and also seek what little fresh air there was at the door of his dwelling. He did not laugh or gossip with his neighbors, as did Rose Cordier; it was not his way, and this made him quite recognized by the dwellers in William Street. Beyond a "Good evening neighbor," they did not seek to disturb him in the enjoyment of his evening pipe, only occasionally Rose would step across and ask him what he was at work upon, or if he had a good order, and then poor Hans, flushing all over his fair face, would proceed to describe his work, his prospects, until Rose, with a pretty shrug came and sent a throb of pain into the great honest heart of Hans Gottlieb. But he did not repine, did not blame Rose. It was one of the many misfortunes of not being rich, that was all. But not a cause for complaining, only a burden, like so many others that fall to the lot of the poor man—a part of his day's work.

It was not so often now that Rose Cordier ran across in the gloaming to ask how his work progressed, and the neighbors seemed to grow aware of their friends when they saw them speak to one another. It was changed, all that they had thought likely to come to pass—the wind was in another quarter now—they could see; ah yes, it was not difficult to see what was coming.

Only the children did not forsake Hans, but were just as eager to talk to him and run after him as in the days when there was no spruce Frenchman to share with him the honor of the narrow street.

Then came a morning when Hans, as he worked, saw a couple issue from the opposite house, followed by as many neighbors as could spare an hour's holiday; Rose, with a late Gloire de Dijon in her belt, a bright color on her cheeks, and her dark eyes shining with pride and happiness, and her hand on Andre's arm.

"Good morning," Hans," she cried in her sweet voice, as she passed the open door. "I am going to be married this morning, but we shall not take the wedding holiday till Sunday. If you can come, do." And then passed on before there was a chance of saying more than "a happy future." That evening, as Hans worked at the rose-wreath—it was nearly completed now—he chanced to look across to the window where he had so often seen the bent head and the trim figure. But to-night the lamp was lit, for it soon grew dark now, too soon for work to be relinquished with the twilight, and on the blind was the reflection of two heads, of four busy hands.

Hans did not look again; he drew down his own blind then, and with a sigh went back to the carving of his delicate rose-leaves.

But after that evening he gave up his little room, packed his few goods, and made up his mind to go away—to go to Rome, that home of ambitious minds.

Now that the little savings were not at all to be hoarded against the day when they might be hoarded for another, it was no use guarding them any more. Better, so Hans decided, use them in going away to where daily bread might be easier come by than in this narrow German town; where, perhaps, even the carving he was so fond of might gain him congenial work, and allow him to put one side this other work that occupied him now.

Besides, if the worst came to the worst, he did drift into utter poverty, it did not much matter now.

And with that "now," Hans buried the past and started forth on his travels.

First, however, he went across the street, and for the first time entered Rose's domain, Mme. Leroux, as he had to call her.

"I have come to wish you good-bye, madame," he said. "And see, I have brought you as a parting present the little wreath. It is finished now."

He laid it down as he spoke among the colored roses on the table, between monsieur and madame as they sat at work.

"Oh, that is good of you, very good," cried Rose, the ever ready tears coming into her eyes. "And so you are going away? Ah, my husband," turning toward spruce, neat fingered M. Leroux, "thou must also wish Monsieur Hans 'God-speed,' for in the old days before I was married, he was always a kind friend to me. And see also what a beautiful present he has brought us!"

At his wife's words M. Andre stood up.

"Monsieur is amiable, most amiable! Any friend of madame is dear to the heart of Andre Leroux! Let me wish you 'bon voyage' and much prosperity." Then there was a brief farewell from Hans, a few tears from Rose, another bow from M. Andre, and Gottlieb had departed and the husband and wife were left alone.

"It is graceful, very graceful," said the Frenchman, lifting the parting gift of Hans. "One would scarcely have thought his great hands could have fashioned such a thing. When it grows dark, dear wife, if you fetch a nail and a piece of cord, I will myself attach it to the wall!"

"It is pretty," said the wife. "I always thought so; but now, Andre, that I see it among all the seed roses, I am sure that what I said of it at first is quite true—it wants color!"

"You have it exactly, my wife," replied M. Leroux, with fond appreciation of Rose's cleverness. "That is just what it needs—but, then, we cannot have everything." And M. Andre's gaze returned with much satisfaction to the crimson roses before him.

It would have surprised this couple, perhaps, if they could have seen on into the coming years, if they could have listened to the words of a world-renowned collector of the beauties of art.

"He only did two of them"—he was addressing some three or four eager listeners in a London ball room—"the one that he did for Levison, and which first made him famous. You never saw it? Why, it is a marvel! The curl of the leaves, the very dew on the fresh petals, it is wonderful. I would have given him anything he asked for one like it. But poor fellow, as you know, he only just lived long enough to know he was famous.

"However, when I was last in Frederickaburg, his native town, and striving to find out all I could about him—if he had done anything before he went to Rome—there in that narrow wretched narrow street, as I was telling you before, I found this facsimile of his greatest work—a present to a sweetheart, I suppose. They had told me she knew him, that he used to live opposite to her, so I called to see if I could glean anything about him, and there, hanging up on the wall, I saw that very wreath that had been haunting me for months!"

"How did you persuade her to part with it?"

"Ah, Lady Grace, that was not very difficult—honest English gold. Her eyes glistened at the sight of it! Very pretty eyes they were, too! She cried when I took it down, cried when I told her Hans was dead. But her husband comforted her. 'See, my wife,' he said, 'I will make for thee a wreath of these lovely roses of just the same size'—did I say they were artificial flower makers?—'and we will hang it up in its place, so that you will not miss the other. As to him, poor fellow, life is difficult, and perhaps he is well out of it!'"

So madame dried her tears.

"Ah, that will be lovely," I heard her say, as I carried my treasure away; "and I like the colored ones best. And the money, you see, my friend, is far better; it will feed and clothe the children, whereas the wreath—we could only look at it!"

"You are interested in it now, are you not, Lady Grace? You will come and have tea in my rooms to-morrow afternoon, and see the wreath of roses? Poor fellow, what a sad pity it was that he died so young!"

Sketches of Travel.

NOTES ON EUROPEAN TRAVEL.

NUMBER XXIX.

BY T. W. SILLOWAY, A. M.

Special Correspondence of the Mass Ploughman.

ENGLAND—CONTINUED.

And now at 1 P. M., on this Monday, we leave for the famed

STRATFORD ON AVON,

where we arrived at 2 P. M., after a ride of an hour. We took coach to the famed Red Horse Hotel, made famous by Washington Irving's sojourn and his sketch book article. The parlor, a room some twelve feet by twelve feet, and of low story, on the first floor fronting on the street, is shown, and more or less used by visitors. This is the room occupied for months by Irving, and his old arm chair is still in use. The tongs and shovel, and the iron poker, "Sir Geofrey's Scepter," is still there, though the latter having become classic, is only on exhibition, and not for use. The town is a small one, somewhat of a business place at the very centre, but for the most part is of a rural nature, though a few of the streets being well paved and the buildings of some consequence, it has quite a town or city appearance. It is situated on the river Avon, a small stream, and has a population of 3,833. It was a place of some consequence as soon as the 8th century, and was well occupied more than eleven hundred years ago. It of course derives its principal interest from associations with the great poet, who was born here April 23, 1564, and died here on his birthday 1616. The house in which he died was wantonly torn down by its proprietor many years ago, much to the regret of the inhabitants, as well as to the visitor, but the one in which he was born and for many years occupied, still stands, and is the great object of attraction. It is situated on one of the principal streets, though in a quiet village street like locality, and is a building out on a line with the sidewalk, with no yard in front. It is two stories high, having a common pitched roof, with some breaks in it for windows, and all is now restored and perfectly repaired, supposed to be as in his early days. It is one of the timbered buildings, with bricks in the spaces, plastered over on these, and painted a neat light gray or steel color, and the timber work painted brown. The extreme length on the street may be forty-five feet. It is now, like our Mount Vernon near Washington, owned by an association, and kept for inspection of those interested in things of the kind. Two matrons, some sixty-five years of age, who are very genial in demeanor, quite at home in conversation, and have the whole story at their tongue's end, take turns with each other in doing the agreeable, which costs the modest sum of a shilling to each visitor. We are shown the kitchen or Shakspeare living room, into which the street door directly leads. It has no furniture unless it be a chair or two of modern make, for the accommodation of the visitors. The great enormous fireplace as it was is still there; the old worn hearth; the oak floor; and next we see the dining-room, and the chamber in which tradition says he was born. The low ceilings; the generally declined and sagged away parts; the style of everything aids the imagination, and so it is easy to feel that probably he was born here, but we are of course by no device able to "comprehend the situation," or to fully realize the great facts in which we are here interested. In an adjoining room is a museum in which are collected many things once owned by the great bard. Letters written by him, and other writings with which he was associated; portraits of him by various artists, and many other objects of remarkable interest. A visit to this house is one much enjoyed, and the number of visitors is large daily.

Next, a walk of ten minutes, and we are at the

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

a fine old gothic structure, quite large and in most thorough repair. It is situated in the center of a burial ground, also of antiquity, and well-enclosed with trees. The church is very long, and has a fine old tower and quite a lofty spire above it. A source of great revenue to the parish are Shakspeare's remains, a shilling each paid, and we enter on the side, but near the west end, pass down the center of the long nave, and are at the holy of holies. The chancel back of this nave, or ending it, is perhaps thirty feet long and twenty feet deep, enclosed by a simple and straight altar rail at the front. On the left end wall, and some six feet up from the floor, is the celebrated bust of the poet. It is painted now, as it originally was, and as described by Briton, in 1816. "The bust," he says, "is the size of life; it is formed out of a block of soft stone, and was originally painted in imitation of nature. The hands and face were of flesh color, the eyes of a light hazel, and the hair and beard auburn; the doublet, or coat, was scarlet, and covered with a loose black gown, or tabard, without sleeves; the upper part of the cushion was green, the under half crimson, and the tassels gilt. After remaining in this state above one hundred and twenty years, Mr. John Ward, grandfather to Mrs. Siddons and Mr. Kemble, caused it to be repaired and the original colors preserved, in 1784, from the profits of the representation of Othello." In 1793 Malone foolishly caused it to be painted white. It should be named that in his right hand he holds a pen, and appears to be in the act of writing on a sheet of paper on the cushion named in front of him. Beneath this monument is a tablet containing the following inscription, first of two lines in Latin, which translated are as follows:

"In judgement a Nestor, in genius a Socrates, in
aris a Maro;
The earth covers him, the people mourn for him,
Olympus has him."

And next are these lines in English:

"Stay, passenger, why goest thou so fast?
Read if thou can'st whom envious death hath
plast
Within this monument,—Shakspeare; with
whome
Quick natvre dide; whose name doth deck ys
tombe
Far more than cost; sieth all yt he hath writt,
Leaves living art, but page to serve his witt.
Obilt ano. Dei. 1616; Ætatis 53, Die. 23 Ap."

Near the wall and monument, and making a part of the chancel, is a plain stone beneath which the body lies buried; and upon it is the following inscription, said to have been written by the poet himself on his deathbed:

"Good frend, for Iesvs sake forbeare
To digge the dvst enclosed heare;
Blesst be ye. man yt. spares thes stones
And cvrst be he yt. moves my bones."

In the charnel house of this ancient church, is a large lot of human bones. These Shakspeare had doubtless often seen, and he probably shuddered at the thought that at some day his own might become part of the same promiscuous heap; and this thought seems to have been present in his own mind when he makes Hamlet ask: "Did these bones cost no more the breeding, but to play at loggats with them? *Mine ache to think on't.*" This great dislike, strong in death, influenced him; and so the, perhaps, last work of his pen was thus to bestow a blessing or a curse, as future authorities might disturb or respect him. His wife survived him seven years, and was buried beside him. On her gravestone is a brass plate, with the following inscription by an unknown author:

"Heere lyeth interred the bodye of Anne, wife of Mr. William Shakespeare, who departed this life the 6th day of August, 1623, being of the age of 67 yeares."

And next comes a Latin verse written by her daughter, and rendered into English is as follows:

"Thou, Mother, hast afforded me thy paps,—
Hast given me milk and life; alas! for gifts
So great, I give thee only stones. How would
I rather some good angel should remove
This stone from hence; that, as Christ's body
rose,
So should thy form! But wishes naught avail.
Com'st thou soon, O Christ! let my imprisoned
Mother, from this tomb soar to seek the star."

BIOGRAPHY.

A brief outline of his life is as follows: Tradition says that he was born April 23, 1594. The ancient parchment parish register—which we were permitted to see—shows that he was baptized three days after the date named. At the age of but nineteen, an unusual proceeding took place in the quiet old town, for the proper authorities were applied to for granting permission of marriage of the young man to Anne Hathaway, and at that after but one publication of the banns instead of three, as was both practice and law. A bond was issued, and signed by Fulk Sandalls and John Rychardson, for indemnity of the officers of the Bishop of Worcester's Ecclesiastical Court, for granting the questionable permission which they did, and issuing the document, bearing date November 28, 1582. The marriage took place during the Christmas holidays, but the exact day, like that of his birth, is as yet, and perhaps forever will be, shrouded in mystery.

On the 26th day of May, 1583, six months after the hastened marriage ceremony, the parish register has a record of the baptism of his first child, Susana, and on the 2d day of February, 1585, of his second daughter.

It is presumed that his first play, or rather the first part of Henry VI., was brought out at Blackfriars Theatre, London, in 1590, while its author was at the age of 27; and it is reported of him that he produced a play once in six months afterwards, till the completion of all attributed to him. On the burning of the Globe theatre, of London, which was simply a summer theatre, and without roof, he returned back to the town of his nativity in 1613, where he died April 23, 1616, being his fifty second birthday, and realizing one of his own remarks where he says:

"We are such stuff
As dreams are made of, and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep."

We have no absolutely reliable account of the cause of his comparatively early death; but our record would not be complete did we not state that the Rev. John Ward, vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon, in 1662, or forty-six years after his death, writes as follows:—"Shakspeare, Drayton, and Ben Jonson, had a merie meeting, and drank too hard; for Shakspeare, it seems, died of a feavour there contracted." Here we leave our subject to, in our next, speak of Anne Hathaway's cottage, etc.

COVENTRY.

We arrived here at 2.45 P. M., May 28th, after the short ride from Kenilworth. Few places in England are better known in history than this quaint old town. It is situated on the river Sherbourne, and has a population of 39,470. The town derived its name from an ancient convent, or Benedictine Priory, founded here in 1044 by Leofie, Lord of Mercia, and his lady Godovia. The cellar of the old institution still exists. It is 115 feet long and 15 feet wide. No place in England shows better examples of old English towns as they were centuries ago, than does Coventry. In one section of the place, little if any change has been made, and here are many of the very old timber and plastered houses, with upper stories projecting, and the streets so narrow that the tops of the houses are but a few feet apart. The streets in this section are very crowded, and an indescribable antiquity and quaintness prevails.

There are three ancient stone churches, all with very high towers and spires above them and they are so located, as to form an apparent triangle when seen from almost any point of view, and they are seemingly, about an eighth of a mile apart. The steeple of one of them, St. Michael's, is 363 feet high, and Trinity is 237 feet apart. They are of good Gothic architecture, and two of them are of quite elaborate finish. There is a free school, founded in the time of Henry the VIII, and also an object of much interest is the venerable St. Mary's Hall, built in the 15th century. It is 60 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 34 feet high, with a most elaborately and very curiously carved oak ceiling, and has a grand old colored glass window. It was built by Trinity Guild, and is now used for public meetings. As long ago as the 15th century an active trade was carried on in cloth caps and bonnets, camlet cloth, &c. These have given place to silks, fringes, and watches; more of the latter being made here than in London. It was anciently defended by walls and towers, but only a small portion of the former, and three of the latter remain, the others, both walls and towers, were destroyed by order of Charles II, on account of the favors shown by the citizens to the parliamentarians. Twelve parliaments in all have been held here, which shows the ancient repute of the place. The people were for centuries noted for their love of show and pageants, of public displays, processions, &c. The old religious dramas called mysteries were performed here as early as 1416, and often in the presence of royalty. Until the present century, an annual pageant was kept up in memory of

LADY GODOVIA,